

APPENDIX.

Report on Memoirs of Michigan Conference.

Death has broken our ranks. Rev. L. J. FRANCISCO departed this life in Orleans, Michigan, October 23d, 1873, of typhoid fever and inflammation of the lungs, aged thirty-nine years and twenty-three days. He had preached for twenty years. He formerly was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Michigan Conference. Feeling that duty called him to join the Free Methodist Church, he accordingly united with the Michigan Conference in 1870, and although feeble in health, he continued his faithful labors among us for two years, giving universal satisfaction.

Shortly after uniting with the Free Methodist Church, he was asked why he did so. He gave this correct and pointed answer: "I joined the Free Methodists because I was one." We loved Bro. Francisco dearly, and feel our loss; but our loss is his gain. Love crowned all his actions. His death was a glorious victory. He could be heard all over the house shouting and praising God. It was victory all the way down to the river, and God gave him an abundant entrance into the kingdom of His dear Son.

Rev. Wm. R. Cusick preached his funeral sermon to a large and attentive congregation, and the power of God was among the people. May the Lord bless his afflicted family, and prepare us all for so glorious a death.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
New York Conference,
OF THE
Free Methodist Church,
HELD AT
Brooklyn, N. Y., September 3-6, 1874,
in the F. M. Church, on 3d avenue.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.

Secretary—W. Gould,

Assistant—J. Glen.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—B. T. Roberts, J. Mackey.

On Statistics—W. Gould, J. Glen.

On Publishing Minutes and Collecting Funds for same—W. Gould, J. Glen, W. Lamont.

On Missions and Missionary Appropriations—The Stationing Committee.

On Claims—J. C. Bristol, W. Jones.

On Sunday Schools—W. Gould, M. D. McDougal, W. Lamont, W. B. Bertels.

On Publications—M. N. Downing, J. Mathews, J. Mackey.

On Bible Cause—W. M. Parry, W. M. Finch.

On Education—W. Gould, B. T. Roberts, A. G. Terry, M. D. McDougal, J. Mackey.

On Appointing Examiners on Course of Study—A. G. Terry.
On Ministerial relations—M. N. Downing, J. Glen, W. Jones,
 J. Mackey, W. B. Bertels, C. Beatty.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Arranging for Sunday School Convention—W. Gould, J. Mathews.

Examiners on Course of Study for Next Year.

Preliminary Course—F. J. Ewell.

First Year—M. N. Downing, W. M. Parry.

Second Year—J. Mathews, W. Jones.

Third Year—J. Glen, M. D. McDougal.

Fourth Year—W. Gould, G. E. Ferrin.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. *What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?*

Preachers—A. G. Terry, W. Jones, W. Gould, J. Mathews, M. N. Downing, M. D. McDougal, F. J. Ewell, W. M. Parry, S. H. Bronson, J. Glen, G. E. Ferrin, W. W. Warner, R. Coons, O. V. Kettles.

Delegates—W. B. Bertels, C. Hartman, A. C. Brown, J. T. Haviland, J. Silvers, C. Beatty, A. Loyd, W. Lamont, J. Mackey, F. Wurster, J. W. Tamblyn, W. D. Steward, W. M. Finch, W. Spry.

2. *Who are the Stationing Committee?*

B. T. Roberts, W. Jones, M. N. Downing, J. Glen, J. Mackey, W. B. Bertels, W. Spry.

3. *What Preachers are admitted on trial?*

Andrew Ahgreen, who is in Deacon's orders.

4. *Who remain on trial?*

H. Hendrickson, G. Eakins, J. C. Bristol.

5. *Who are admitted into full connection?*

O. V. Kettles and F. J. Ewell, who was received by transfer from the Genesee F. M. Conference.

6. *Who are the Deacons?*

Rufus Coons, who was ordained in 1872, and O. V. Ket-

ties, ordained this year. J. T. Haviland was ordained as a Local Deacon this year.

7. *Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?*
Oluf V. Kettles.

11. *Who have withdrawn?*
W. W. Dickson, who has left us under circumstances unfavorable to his moral character.

12. *Are the preachers blameless &c.?*
Their characters were each examined and passed; except that of W. W. Dickson who had withdrawn.

14. *What is the number of Church members, &c.?*
See Table of Statistics.

15. *What amounts are necessary, &c.?*
See Reports on Claims, and Missionary Appropriations.

16. *What has been collected and applied, &c.?*
See Statistics, and Reports on Claims and Missionary Appropriations.

17. *Where are the preachers stationed, &c.?*

STATIONS OF THE PREACHERS.

NEW YORK DISTRICT—W. GOULD, *Chairman*.

New York, 37th Street.....Supplied by J. M. Y. Smith.
New York, Grand Street.....To be supplied.
Brooklyn.....Supplied by T. S. La Due.
Riverhead and Farmingdale.....W. M. Parry.
Newark and Hudson City German Mission.....O. V. Kettles.
Dover.....W. Jones.
Swedish Mission.....A. Ahlgren.
Allentown, Phillipsburg and Easton.....To be supplied.
M. N. Downing and J. Glen, to be appointed by the President.

WILKESBARRE DISTRICT—W. GOULD, *Chairman*.

Wilkesbarre and Whitehaven.....M. D. McDougal.
Abington.....J. C. Bristol.
Lennox and Uniondale.....S. H. Bronson.
Canaan and Beach Pond.....R. Coons.
Hancock and Delaware... ..A. G. Terry; one to be supplied.
Liberty.....G. E. Ferrin.
Windham.....G. Eakins.

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT—J. MATHEWS, *Chairman*.

Philadelphia.....J. Mathews.
Vineland Mission.....F. J. Ewell.
Rahway and Elizabeth City.....W. W. Warner.

18. *Where and when shall our next Conference be held?*
Philadelphia, Wednesday, Sept. 1st, 1875.

The Conference did no business under the 8th, 9th, 10th and 13th questions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ORGANIZATION.

1. The Executive Committee having consented to the formation of the new Conference, as requested by the Susquehanna annual Conference of 1872 and 1873, the General Superintendent decided to organize and gave notice through the FREE METHODIST and EARNEST CHRISTIAN that the conference to be thus organized would meet at Brooklyn, on Wednesday, September 2d, 1874.

Accordingly, the ministers who had labored within the bounds of the proposed new conference, as voted for by the Susquehanna Conference of 1873, and duly elected lay delegates from the circuits embraced within said bounds, assembled in the Free Methodist Church at Brooklyn, at the time announced; and, as the General Superintendent had not arrived, religious services were held and the meeting adjourned until Thursday, Sept. 3d, at 9 A. M.

On Thursday at 9 A. M. the General Superintendent took the chair, called the meeting to order and announced that all preachers who had charge of circuits within the aforesaid bounds would be considered as members of the new Conference, unless they wished to retain their membership in the Susquehanna Conference; and that any other preachers of Susquehanna Conference would be considered members of the new Conference if they desired and stated their desire to this Conference.

The President read the names of preachers who had labored within the said bounds,—each responded and his name was placed upon the new conference roll.

W. Gould and W. Jones, who had been laboring outside of said bounds, signified their wish to become members of New York Conference, and the President ordered their names to be placed on the said conference roll.

The name of W. W. Warner was subsequently added, at his request.

Credentials of twelve laymen, from the circuits before referred to, were then presented, and the said laymen were admitted to seats.

W. Gould was then elected Secretary by ballot; he receiving 15 of the 19 votes cast.

J. Glen was elected assistant Secretary by show of hands.

DECISION OF THE PRESIDENT.

W. Jones, having been Chairman on the Windsor District, which embraced four circuits within the bounds before referred to, and having united with this Conference, the President decided that he should be recognized as a District Chairman, and allowed to act on the Stationing Committee as such.

COMMITTEES.

1. Conference appointed eleven Committees, as per list given elsewhere.

2. Laymen, to act on the Stationing Committee, were elected by ballot as follows:

For the New York District, J. Mackey, who received 16 of the 21 votes given.

For the Philadelphia District, W. B. Bertles, who received 16 of the 21 votes given.

For the four circuits of the Windsor District, now included within the New York Conference bounds, W. Spry, who received 11 of 19 votes given.

3. On the presentation of the report of the Committee on Sunday Schools, Conference voted that the Chairmen of Districts for the coming year, should serve as the committee provided for in said report.

4. On presentation of the report of the Committee on Appointment of examiners in the course of study, the brethren named in said report were appointed as examiners.

TRANSFER.

F. J. Ewell, of the Genesee Conference of the F. M. Church, was received by transfer from said Conference.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE

was made the special order of business for Friday, Sept. 4th, at 11 o'clock A. M.

At the hour above named Conference balloted for the delegates to which the President declared it entitled, with the following results :

On the 1st, 2d and 3d ballotings for ministers there was no election.

On the 4th balloting, 13 votes cast : for W. Gould 7 ; M. N. Downing 3 ; J. Glen 1 ; A. G. Terry 1 ; J. Mathews 1. W. Gould elected.

Fifth balloting, 13 votes cast : for J. Glen 7 ; M. N. Downing 4 ; J. Mathews 1 ; A. G. Terry 1.

J. Glen elected.

The laymen balloted separately.

On the first ballot, 14 votes cast : for J. Mackey 9, W. B. Bertles 3, A. C. Brown 1, C. Beatty 1.

J. Mackey elected.

Second ballot, 14 votes given : for W. B. Bertles 10, C. Beatty 3, J. Mackey 1. W. B. Bertels elected.

It was resolved to elect two ministers and two laymen as reserve delegates ; and further resolved to place two names on each ballot.

The ministers voted with the following result : 26 votes cast on 13 ballots ; for W. Jones 9, M. N. Downing 8, J. Mathews 4, A. G. Terry 3, W. M. Parry 1, F. J. Ewell 1.

W. Jones and M. N. Downing elected.

The laymen balloted as follows : 26 votes given on 13 ballots ; for C. Beatty 10, A. C. Brown 7, W. M. Frink 3, W. Lamont 3, C. Hartman 1, W. Spry 1, J. W. Tamblyn 1.

C. Beatty and A. C. Brown elected.

RECOGNITION OF ORDINATIONS.

Credentials, certifying that Andrew Ahgreen and Garret Smith had been duly ordained Deacons in the M. E. Church, were read, and their ordination was, in each case, recognized.

CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES.

The following was adopted by the Conference :

Whereas, The boundaries of this Conference, as provided for by the action of the last session of the Susquehanna Annual Conference, and of the General Superintendent and Executive Committee, are very vaguely and indefinitely described: and,

Whereas, The members of our Church on the Windsor, Bainbridge and Schoharie circuits disapprove the said action, which prevents them from being included within the bounds of this Conference, to which they desire to be attached, believing that the interests of the work among them would be best promoted thereby. And,

Whereas, We believe that as a Conference we are fairly entitled to claim the membership and territory embraced within the Susquehanna Valley, on the ground of geographical position, as being necessary to our strength and development; and on account of the relations which bind that part of the work with those which are now within our bounds. Therefore,

Resolved, That we respectfully petition the General Conference to so arrange the boundaries of this Conference as to include the entire East Susquehanna Valley.

CHAIRMEN OF DISTRICTS.

The Stationing Committee unanimously recommended the dividing of the Conference territory into three Districts, as shown in the list of stations; two of them to be under the care of a Traveling Chairman and Conference Evangelist, and one, the Philadelphia, under the care of a Stationed Elder. It was further recommended that W. Gould be the traveling, and J. Mathews the stationed chairman.

Conference balloted first for the Chairman of Philadelphia District; 20 ballots cast: for J. Mathews 17, F. J. Ewell 2, T. S. LaDue 1. J. Mathews elected.

For the New York and Wilkesbarre Districts: 21 ballots cast, for W. Gould 21.

EXPENSES OF DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

W. Gould was instructed to make an estimate of the expenses of delegates to the General Conference, and apportion the amount pro rata to the several circuits of the Conference, and it was resolved that collections be taken on each charge to pay the amounts so assessed.

SUNDRY.

1. Conference met each morning at 9 A. M., adjourned at

12, noon. Evening sitting was had on Saturday at the close of the evening service.

2. O. V. Kettles was elected to Elders orders in advance of the usual disciplinary time, in consequence of his missionary labors among the German speaking people.

3. L. M. Hough, not being ready to take work this year, was discontinued from the trial list.

4. The money raised by Superannuated collections was ordered to be paid to Sister Selby of Utica, by vote of the Conference.

5. Conference raised \$6.33, by collection, to purchase a Record book, &c., for the use of the Conference.

ORDINATION.

On Sunday, Sept., 5th, at the close of the morning sermon, Oluf V. Kettles and J. T. Haviland were ordained Deacons, by imposition of the hands of B. T. Roberts.

At the close of the afternoon sermon Oluf V. Kettles was ordained Elder, by the imposition of the hands of B. T. Roberts and of several other Elders.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Were held each afternoon and evening. Sermons were preached by W. Gould, F. Hendrickson, J. Mathews, M. D. McDougal, W. M. Parry, J. C. Bristol, F. J. Ewell, B. T. Roberts.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. ON MISSIONARY ORDINATION.—*Resolved*, That, as O. V. Kettles labors extensively amongst German-speaking people, it is expedient to elect him to Elders' orders, and that he be elected.

2. ON WEARING GOLD WEDDING RINGS.—*Resolved*, That we disapprove of receiving persons into the Church as probationers, wearing gold wedding rings, believing it contrary to the spirit and letter of our Discipline.

On the adoption of the above, the yeas and nays were called for and ordered. Conference voted as follows: Ministers voting yea, 8; nay, 3. Laymen, yeas, 9; nays, 3. Absent—ministers, 3; laymen, 2.

STATISTICS OF THE NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

NAMES OF CIRCUITS.

NAMES OF CIRCUITS.	MEMBERS.			SUNDAY SCHOOLS.										
	Full.	Probation.	Total.	Local Preachers.	Number.	Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.	Volumes in Library.	Amount Col- lected for S. Schools.	Preachers' Re- ceipts.	Missionary Col- lections.	Bible Collections.	Claims Collections	Value of Church Property.
New York, 37th Street.....	47	3	50	1	1	56	18	577	80.85	1200.00	33.50	11.50	...	20,000
New York, Grand Street.....	29	3	32	1	1	16	4	...	25.00	374.00	9.10	9.70	2.50	...
Newark Mission.....	11	2	13	...	1	18	5	...	12.00	105.00	5.53	3.15	4.36	2,300
Hudson City Mission.....	7	...	7	...	1	30	4	...	...	40.00	...	...	...	...
Brooklyn.....	52	4	56	1	1	35	7	55	23.04	960.00	...	...	...	1,500
Farmingdale.....	9	2	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Riverhead and Greenport.....	12	11	23	2	1	25	5	85	7.00	354.61	2.50	1.00	3.50	1,000
Dover.....	35	7	42	3	1	60	14	80	28.04	1053.00	16.00	5.00	7.00	10,000
Phillipsburg and Kingwood.....	37	7	44	...	1	37	7	...	1.20	343.75	...	...	...	...
*Rahway and Elizabeth.....	19	3	22	1	1	14	8	...	7.00	73.73	2.77	...	2.58	10,000
Philadelphia.....	36	3	39	...	1	40	8	60	8.00	680.00	3.50	1.30	2.79	7,000
Allentown, Emaus and Sacon.....	43	3	46	2	3	87	25	40	26.32	167.60	10.60	2.18	8.10	125
Wilkesbarre and Whitehaven.....	40	9	49	3	2	60	18	300	10.00	757.00	2.00	2.00	...	1,200
Vineand Mission.....	21	2	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Liberty and Delaware.....	43	13	56	2	2	50	8	...	...	220.00	91	63	85	10
Windham.....	29	6	35	2	...	...	...	...	...	209.42	1.06	1.21	...	...
Canaan and Beach Pond.....	41	10	51	1	3	100	25	250	...	409.04	4.70	3.10	5.75	4,000
Abington and Lennox.....	16	2	18	1	...	...	...	...	...	217.35	...	2.75	...	...
* Had a preacher for 15 weeks only during year.														
	527	90	617	20	20	628	156	1447	228.45	7164.50	92.17	43.52	37.43	57,035

3. ON CANDIDATES AND EXAMINERS.—*Resolved*, That all candidates for examination on the Course of Study, and all examiners thereon, be required to be present at Philadelphia F. M. Church, next year, at 9 A. M., on Tuesday, Aug. 31st, 1874.

4. ON PUBLISHING THE MINUTES.—*Resolved*, That we will publish our Minutes in connection with those of as many of the other Conferences held this fall as will concur; and that the money now collected (\$29.30), be paid to B. T. Roberts as publisher.

5. ON CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.—*Resolved*, That the Bible collection ordered by this Conference, be taken on all our charges during the 2d quarter; and that a Missionary collection be taken during the 4th quarter.

6. VOTE OF THANKS.—*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Conference be tendered to the citizens of Brooklyn, for their kindness in entertaining its members during this session.

REPORTS.

I.—ON CLAIMS.

Your committee report the receipt of \$37.43. (For items, see Statistics.)

Resolved, That as this Conference has no claimant, and as we have been until the time of this session connected with the Susquehanna Conference, that the above amount be paid to Sister J. Selby, of the Susquehanna Conference.

II.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We rejoice greatly in the much increased interest felt almost everywhere among our people in the prosecution of Sunday School work, and especially over the success attending it, evidenced by the conversion of children, now so frequently witnessed among us. All glory to God!

But we rejoice with trembling, conscious that our duty to the rising generation has been, and is yet being, but very imperfectly done.

This new Conference, starting on its work of evangelization, and having within easy reach all the many means of equipping itself fully for most efficient labors, ought at once to take a front rank among earnest, Sunday School workers. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That we will make vigorous efforts to establish and maintain Sunday Schools in all parts of our field of labor, and give such diligent attention to them, as shall secure their complete success, as a means of salvation to the children under our care.

Resolved, 2d, We believe it is especially the duty of all preachers in charge of circuits, to give personal attention to Sunday School work, and thus feed Christ's lambs.

Resolved, 3d, That for the purpose of increasing our interest and efficiency in Sabbath School labors, a Sunday School convention shall be held, at some convenient time and place, during the coming year, and within the bounds of this Conference.

Resolved, 4th, That a committee be appointed by this Conference, who shall have full power to arrange the time, place, and order of business for said convention.

Resolved, 5th, That we urge the next ensuing General Conference, to give especial attention to the Sunday School department of our work—particularly by arranging, as far as it is in its power, for supplying such religious literature suited to children as is imperatively demanded.

Resolved, 6th, That we will continue to discountenance all such means of sustaining Sunday School enterprises, as savor of worldly conformity, or panper to the carnal propensities of depraved human nature.

III.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

1. We emphatically re-affirm our entire confidence in the character and usefulness of the EARNEST CHRISTIAN.

2. In view of the fact that the name Free Methodist belongs to us as a denomination; and that large sums of money have been donated and subscribed by us, to establish and maintain the paper bearing that name, with the understanding that it would be General Conference property.

It is our judgment that the next General Conference should assume control of that which is its own; offering to persons now holding and publishing it, a fair remuneration for their outlay upon it.

IV.—ON MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.

Total amount received from Missionary collections, \$92,21: for items see Statistics.

We recommend that the following sums be paid at this Conference: F. J. Ewell \$18.44; A. Ahgreen \$18.44; A. G. Terry \$18.44; W. W. Warner \$36.89.

We further recommend that the following appropriations be made and paid next year.

Vineland Mission,.....	\$ 31 56
Swedish "	31 56
A. G. Terry,.....	31 56
Rahway and Elizabeth Circuits,.....	63 11

V.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Your Committee recommend that the amount now in their hands, (\$48.52) be paid to the American Bible Society, by the Rev. J. Mathews, in such a manner as he shall judge proper.

Resolved, That we will take collections for the Bible cause on all our charges during the coming year; and that the money raised shall be appropriated to purchase Bibles and Testaments

for the use of our Sunday Schools, as the next ensuing annual conference may direct.

VI.—ON EDUCATION.

We regard, as too evident to need supporting argument, the following propositions.

1. A well educated Christian is capable of much greater usefulness, in all departments of God's service, than an ignorant one.

2. That to neglect the proper cultivation of our mental powers is sinful.

3. That human intellect can only obtain its greatest perfection of development when controlled and inspired by the saving grace of God.

We therefore believe that it is our imperative duty to secure for ourselves, and our children, such means of education as shall be pervaded most eminently by the salvation element.

Many schools of our country, some of them under the care of professedly religious bodies, are lamentably lacking in this respect. To such an extent is this true, and so thoroughly are these institutions often pervaded and controlled by the spirit of the world, that exposure to their influence ensures almost certain spiritual damage, and often entire ruin.

Enlightened Christian parents may well hesitate to place their precious children, committed to them for training in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, under such influences.

We clearly perceive the importance and necessity of establishing and maintaining schools which shall be under the care of genuine saints, where a thorough education may be obtained from instructors filled with the Holy Ghost, and where the moral atmosphere shall be free from the taint of worldly influence and practice.

We are devoutly thankful that so good a degree of success has attended the establishment and maintenance of the two seminaries now in operation amongst us, and which aim at supplying the needed means before referred to.

The Chili School enterprise has been especially owned of God from its beginning, and the past year has been its most successful one. Already the number is considerable of those who can truthfully say, "I was born of God there." Its prospects for increased usefulness are very bright. The debts of the institution are provided for.

But we regret that thus far the ordinary income has been so meagre as to compel the practice of too rigid an economy in its necessary expenditures; that much painful self-denial has consequently been endured by those who govern and teach in the institution; and that its usefulness is considerably hindered by the want of adequate support.

It should be much more liberally provided for. Increased accommodation, by the erection of new buildings, is absolutely demanded by the increase of scholars. This must be furnished by direct contributions.

The Trustees have decided to make additions to the school buildings, involving an outlay of \$10,000, as soon as subscriptions are received to such an extent as to warrant them in so doing. We therefore

Resolve, 1st. That the Chili School enterprise is worthy of the confidence and support of our people.

Resolved, 2d. That we will present its claims, privately and publicly, and urge the giving of special contributions for its promotion.

Resolved, 3d. That we deem it proper to present said claims at our large church gatherings, such as camp-meetings and the like, provided that it be done consistently, with proper care for the important interests, and under the direction of the officers of such meetings.

Resolved, 4th. We will warn all our people of the great danger of committing the training of their children, carelessly, to those who are not under the influence of saving grace, either in their homes or abroad.

VII.—ON MINISTERIAL RELATIONS.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference that the name of W. W. Dickson should be returned on the minutes as having withdrawn under circumstances unfavorable to his moral and Christian character as a minister of Christ.

PREACHERS' NAMES AND ADDRESS.

When admitted to full con- nection.	Name.	Post Office.	County.	State.
1860,	A. G. Terry,*	Hancock,	Delaware,	New York.
1863,	W. Jones,*	Dover,	Morris,	New Jersey.
"	W. Gould,*			
"	J. Mathews,*	Philadelphia,		Pennsylvania.
"	M. N. Downing,*	Alton,	Wayne,	New York.
1864,	T. J. Ewell,*	Vineland,	Cumberland,	New Jersey.
1866,	M. D. McDougal,*	Wilkesbarre,	Luzerne,	Pennsylvania.
1867,	W. M. Parry,*	Riverhead,	Suffolk,	New York.
1868,	S. H. Bronson,*	Uniondale,	Susquehanna,	Penn.
1869,	J. Glen,*	Rome,	Oneida,	New York.
1871,	G. E. Ferrin,*	Liberty Falls,	Sullivan	" "
"	W. W. Warner,*	Rahway,	Union,	New Jersey.
1872,	R. Coons,†	South Canaan,	Wayne,	Penn.
1874,	O. V. Kettles,*	317 Front Street,	New York,	New York.
Admitted on trial.				
1873,	F. Hendrickson,	Saucon Valley,	Lehigh,	Penn.
"	G. Eakins,	Windham,	Greene,	New York.
"	J. C. Bristol,	Waverly,	Luzerne,	Penn.
1874,	And. Abgreen,†			

NOTE.—Those marked thus,* are Elders; those marked thus,† are Deacons.

LOCAL PREACHERS' NAMES AND ADDRESS.

Circuit.	Name.	Post Office.	County.	State.
Allentown.	John F. Knauss,	Emaus,	Lehigh,	Penn.
"	J. R. Shultz,	Allentown,	"	"
Riverhead,	J. L. Downs,	Riverhead,	Suffolk,	New York.
"	S. Downs,	"	"	"
Lennox, &c.,	J. M. Hobbs,	East Lennox,	Susquehanna,	Penn
Wilkesbarre,	W. M. Sullivan,	Wilkesbarre,	Luzerne,	"
"	I. D. Pembleton,	"	"	"
"	W. B. Bertels,	"	"	"
Dover,	J. Markam,	Port Oram,	Morris,	New Jersey.
"	W. V. D. Kinsey,	Dover,	"	"
Rahway,	J. T. Haviland,	Rahway,	Union,	"
Grand Street	P. Wurster,	317 Front st.,	New York,	N. Y.
Canaan,	G. W. Swingle,	South C'naan	Wayne,	Penn.
Windham,	D. Barlow,	Windham,	Greene,	New York.
"	L. M. Hough,	"	"	"
New York,	Jno. Grey,	345 W.38th st	New York,	"
Delaware,	E. Dewey, D.	Harvard,	Delaware,	"
Liberty,	S. Bonney, E.	Liberty Falls	Sullivan,	"
Delaware,	J. W. Tamblyn,	Beaver Rill,	Delaware,	"
Brooklyn,	R. Robson,	5th av. B'kl'n	Kings,	"
New York,	J.A. Sommerville,	Danbury,	Litchfield,	Conn.
Abington,	J. S. Bradbrook,	Waverly,	Luzerne,	Penn.
Schoharie,	M. P. Smith,	Sandford,	Schoharie,	New York

MINUTES
OF THE
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Susquehanna Conference,
HELD AT
Utica, N. Y., Sept. 9-12, 1874.

—••— 1874

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—E. P. Sellew. *Assistant*—O. M. Owen.

COMMITTEES.

- On Public Worship*—B. T. Roberts, J. B. Freeland, S. Beckwith.
On Statistics—E. P. Sellew, O. M. Owen.
On Publishing Minutes—B. T. Roberts, E. P. Sellew, O. M. Owen.
On Missions and Missionary Appropriations—The Stationing Committee.
On Sabbath Schools—B. Winget, O. M. Owen, S. Beckwith, Isaac Balou.
On Claims—C. H. Southworth, Z. Osborne, A. H. Knapp, Benjamin Kinney.
On Bible Cause—J. B. Stacy, J. Olney, P. P. Werner, G. W. Hakes.
On Temperance—T. Whiffin, G. R. Harvey, L. Woodruff, D. Dexter.
On Publications—A. F. Curry, E. Owen, A. Wise, Hiram Thompson.
On Education—J. B. Freeland, Z. Osborne, Isaac Balou, E. D. Bradshaw.

On Secret Societies—L. Kelly, W. Southworth, L. Woodruff, F. A. Town.

On Ministerial Support—W. Southworth, S. Beckwith, Geo. Milam, S. V. McVey.

On the State of the Work—Z. Osborne, E. Owen, L. Woodruff.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. *What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?*

PREACHERS.

A. F. Curry,	E. Owen,	J. Guyon,
J. Olney,	W. Southworth,	S. V. McVey,
J. B. Freeland,	T. Whiffin,	L. Kelly,
J. B. Stacy,	D. Dempsey,	O. M. Owen,
Z. Osborne,	G. R. Harvey,	A. W. Paul,
J. Odell,	C. H. Southworth,	J. D. Osmun.
B. Winget,	E. P. Sellew,	
J. W. Sawyer,	T. A. Ross,	

DELEGATES.

Geo. Milem,	Benjamin Kinney,	G. W. Hakes,
A. H. Knapp,	S. Beckwith,	Geo. Willard,
Marcellus Elliot,	Seymour Holdredge,	Harvey Green,
Isaac Balou,	W. S. Lamphire,	D. Dexter,
Hiram Thompson,	L. Woodruff,	Charles Wilder,
A. Wise,	P. P. Werner,	G. S. Watkins,
J. N. Fulford,	F. A. Town,	E. D. Bradshaw,
S. B. Nichols,	A. L. Webb,	J. O. Fitch.

2. *Who are the Stationing Committee?*

B. T. Roberts, E. Owen, J. B. Freeland, A. F. Curry, W. Southworth, Geo. Milem, A. Wise, Seymour Holdredge, L. Woodruff.

3. *What Preachers are admitted on trial?*

R. M. Snyder, A. A. Knapp.

4. *Who remain on trial?*

Lafayette H. Robinson, Samuel Perkins, Charles W. Stevens, Orren W. Young, Lewis W. Cronk, Lester S. King, Elbert E. Adams.

5. *Who are admitted into full connection?*

John D. Osmun.

6. *Who are the Deacons?*

John D. Osmun,—ordained this year Charles J. Howe, a local preacher, was also ordained a Deacon this year.

7. *Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?*

Olin M. Owen, A. W. Paul and John Benedict,—the last named a local preacher.

8. *Who have located this year?* None.

There was no business under the 9th, 10th and 13th questions.

11. *Who have withdrawn?*

W. H. Steegar.

12. *Are all the Preachers blameless, &c.*

Their characters were each examined and passed.

14. *What is the number of Church members, &c.*

For answer to this question, and also to the 15th and 16th, see Table of Statistics and Report of Committee on Claims.

17. *Where are the Preachers stationed this year?***STATIONS OF THE PREACHERS.**CLYDE DISTRICT.—E. OWEN, *Chairman*.

Pittsford and Bushnell's Basin.....	Z. Osborne.
Webster and Ontario.....	J. Odell.
Canandaigua.....	J. D. Osmun.
Alton and Wayne.....	M. N. Downing.
Montezuma and Port Byron.....	To be Supplied.
Clyde and Rose.....	T. Whiffin.

SYRACUSE DISTRICT.—E. OWEN, *Chairman*.

Syracuse.....	W. Southworth.
Fulton.....	O. M. Owen.
Chittenango and Cicero.....	O. W. Young.
Nelson and Stockbridge.....	S. V. McVey.
Auburn and Seneca Falls Mission.....	J. Olney.
New London and Taberg.....	To be Supplied.

UTICA DISTRICT.—J. B. FREELAND, *Chairman*.

Utica.....	B. Winget.
Fome.....	J. Glen.
Frankfort and Schuyler.....	L. W. Cronk.
Black River.....	Supplied by C. J. Kennedy.
Brookfield and Edmeston.....	J. B. Stacy.
Columbus, Sherburn and Norwich,..	Supplied by R. Bronson.

SARATOGA DISTRICT.—J. B. FREELAND, *Chairman*.

Saratoga,.....Supplied by H. Mathews.
 Greenfield and Corinth,.....To be Supplied.
 Lansingburg and Bath,.....D. Dempsey.
 Grafton,.....Supplied by A. Burdick.
 Schoharie,.....C. W. Stevens.
 Stratford and Salisbury,.....J. Guyon.

BINGHAMTON DISTRICT.—A. F. CURRY, *Chairman*.

Binghamton,.....E. P. Sellw.
 Windsor and Harpersville,.....C. H. Southworth.
 Bainbridge and Oneonta,.....E. E. Adams.
 Smyrna,.....Supplied by H. F. Hill.
 Pharsalia,.....L. H. Robinson.
 Summer Hill and Homer,.....L. S. King.

DANSVILLE DISTRICT.—A. F. CURRY, *Chairman*.

Sparta and Bloods,.....George Stover.
 Ossian,.....R. M. Snyder.
 Italy and Penn Yan,.....A. W. Paul.
 Gibson and Lindleytown,.....S. Perkins.
 Ithaca,.....L. Kelly.
 Williamsport,.....A. H. Knapp.
 Steuben Mission,.....J. W. Sawyer.

T. A. Ross to be appointed by the President.

18. *Where and when shall our next Conference meet?*

Binghamton, N. Y., on the second Wednesday of September 1875, at 9 A. M.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Religious services were held each afternoon and evening during the session of the Conference.

2. Rev's W. Gould, W. Jones and F. J. Ewell of the New York Conference, and Rev. A. N. Moore, of the Genesee Conference, were present and were made honorary members of the Conference.

3. Rev. Mr. Cobb, P. E. Utica District New York Conference, Rev. A. J. Cowles, Pastor South Street M. E. Church, Rev. E. C. Bruce, Pastor of 1st M. E. and Rev. Mr. Wright, of Ilion, were introduced to the Conference and invited to honorary seats.

CHARGES.									
	Members.	Probation- ers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	Sabbath Schools.	S. School Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.	Volumes in Library.	Am't raised for S. S.
Clyde and Rose.....	55	6	61	1	1	64	14	225	\$450.00
Alton and Wayne Centre.....	45	15	60	2	1	25	6	75	\$17.00
Pittsford and Bushnell's Basin.....	40	6	46	1	1	25	6	75	5.00
Canandaigua.....	6	1	7	1	1	100	13	75	16.00
Webster and Ontario.....	52	6	58	1	2	100	13	75	400.06
Bihampton and Owego.....	65	11	76	1	1	25	6	100	5.50
Gibson and Lindley.....	41	4	45	2	1	15	6	70	7.55
Ithaca, Cortland and McGrawville.....	31	3	34	1	1	20	4	75	60.00
Summer Hill.....	29	2	31	1	1	40	11	75	162.43
Smyma, Otsego and Pharsalia.....	33	6	39	2	1	40	11	75	80.23
Columbus, Sherburn and Norwich.....	32	5	37	1	1	1	1	1	55.00
Italy.....	11	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	222.00
Penn Yan and Dundee.....	8	3	11	1	1	25	6	75	439.72
Cocheton and Sparta.....	42	7	49	2	1	35	10	10	655.47
Syracuse.....	56	7	63	2	1	35	10	10	350.00
Fulton.....	57	9	66	1	1	95	18	26	221.07
Chittenango and Cicero.....	54	16	70	1	2	95	18	26	575.00
Nelson and Stockbridge.....	40	1	41	2	1	50	8	200	75.34
Rome.....	66	9	75	1	1	15	7	200	890.50
New London.....	12	9	21	1	1	1	1	1	3.00
Black River.....	18	4	22	2	1	45	15	174	841.00
Utica.....	80	15	95	3	1	40	12	150	400.00
Frankfort and Schuyler.....	43	15	58	1	2	35	10	188	2.00
Oppenheim and Salisbury.....	30	1	31	1	2	20	4	50	450.00
Saratoga.....	25	1	26	1	1	25	6	75	251.86
Greenfield and Corinth.....	15	6	21	1	1	20	4	50	186.67
Lansingburg.....	14	9	23	3	1	64	8	260	314.98
Edmeston and Blyokfield.....	28	2	30	1	1	69	10	188	200.64
Gratton.....	15	4	19	1	1	69	10	188	3.82
Windsor.....	47	4	51	1	1	6	3	5	1.51
Harpersville, Bainbridge, etc.....	28	4	32	1	1	25	6	75	6.67
Schahe.....	21	13	34	1	1	25	6	75	35
Oslen.....	19	19	38	1	1	40	8	1	50
Total.....	1186	197	1385	33	25	853	174	1868	\$150.15
									\$9241.50
									\$100.24
									\$53.23
									\$52.28
									\$73.800

No report from Montezuma and Emporium charges.

4. The Conference voted to have three Chairmen, who should devote their whole time to the District work.

They were elected by ballot; 41 votes were cast: E. Owen received 38, J. B. Freeland 34, A. F. Curry 33, scattering votes 15.

5. The lay members of the Stationing Committee were elected by ballot, according to the provision of the discipline.

ORDINATIONS.

6. On the Sabbath, Sept. 13th, at the close of the morning service, J. D. Osmun and Charles J. Howe were ordained Deacons by the imposition of the hands of B. T. Roberts, the General Superintendent.

7. At the close of the afternoon service, Olin M. Owen, A. W. Paul and John Benedict were ordained Elders by the hands of B. T. Roberts and other Elders.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, 1st. That, in place of our usual Bible collections, we take a collection on all of our charges, during the coming year, for Chili Seminary.

Resolved, 2d. That we publish our minutes in connection with those of other Conferences, including the General Conference.

Resolved, 3d. That all persons to be examined in the course of study next year, be requested to be present, at the seat of the Conference, at 9 A. M. the day previous to the sitting.

Resolved, 4th. That the Report on Secret Societies be published in the *Free Methodist* and *Christian Cynosure*.

Resolved, 5th, That the thanks of this Conference be tendered to the citizens of Utica who have so kindly entertained the members of the Conference during its session.

REPORTS.

I.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Childhood and youth are properly termed the seed time of life; and these periods are the golden opportunities God places before us to improve in educating and saving the young. On their faithful improvement or their misimprovement is suspended the destiny of our children for time and eternity, and that of others around us. If well improved we may have much cause to rejoice in this life, by seeing thirty, sixty, or a hundred fold brought forth as the fruit of our labors; also in the world to come, by seeing many crowned who have been saved through our humble ef-

forts. If misimproved, it will be the occasion for the weeds of sin to spring up, preparatory to the keen remorse and bitter regrets that often follow even in this life, a course of sinning, making the closing hours of life dark and gloomy, enshrouding them with fearful forebodings of coming wrath and destruction. We rejoice in view of the increasing interest that is being manifested by our people in this work ; but we are sorry to know, that, according to the showing of our Conference minutes, there are no Sunday Schools established on a number of our circuits ; also, as far as your committee are informed about the matter, the report which the Discipline requires each preacher to make to his Quarterly Conference, concerning the number and state of the Sunday schools and Bible classes in his charge, and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechised them, we have not been in the habit of making. The Discipline requires each preacher to see that our catechisms are used as extensively as possible. Your committee beg leave to inquire the name of our catechisms and where they may be bought. If we have none, we recommend that the coming General Conference provide some, or indicate to us the ones we had better use. We also recommend that much care be exercised in the selection of *proper* books, if they are used in our schools, but would advise our people, in view of the poisonous matter contained in very many of the Sunday School books which are offered for sale, to discourage their use and supply the schools with good papers instead of books. We recommend that our preachers more carefully and prayerfully consider their duties in this matter, as made known to them in our Discipline, on page 77, section 14, and endeavor the coming year to carry out, more fully than ever before, the duties therein enjoined.

Resolved, 1st. That at least two of our General Quarterly meetings—say the 1st and 3d—for the coming conference year, we will hold our service on Friday afternoon, or at some other time designated by the Chairman, in the interests of Sunday School work, and thereby endeavor to enlist our people more heartily herein ; and that we, as preachers, will bring a report of our Sunday School to the Quarterly Conference at the above mentioned times.

Resolved, 2d. That the Chairmen of the several Districts be the committee to indicate the order of said meetings and take charge of them.

Resolved, 3d. That we are determined that at least one Sunday School shall be established and maintained on each of our charges the coming year, and as many more as we can, and that it, or them, be reported at our next Annual Conference.

Resolved, 4th. That we appoint a committee to fix the time and place for holding a Conference Sunday School Convention, and that they bring in their report before the Conference closes.

II.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

We hail with much satisfaction the monthly visits of the *Earnest Christian*, laden as it is with the very cream of religious doc-

trine and experience. It is, in our opinion, one of the indispensable agencies for the promotion and perpetuation of pure religion—such as we find revealed in the Bible. The *Earnest Christian* is our first-born, and has always been a healthy, vigorous child. It was at once self-supporting, so far as the church is concerned. From its beginning it has been a power for good: ever pouring a continuous stream of light and truth on the moral elements around—a faithful exponent of our religious views, practices and experience, and is every way worthy of our confidence and ought to have our vigorous support. On its outgoings it is our missionary doing a glorious pioneer work in all directions. Let us resolve to pray and labor for its continuous and increased circulation and usefulness.

We report, in regard to the *Free Methodist*, that we are highly pleased with it in its new dress and enlarged dimensions, its general outlook and substantial make up. We cherish it as an offspring of the church, and greatly desire to see it live and grow in favor with God and man. It is the child of our care, toil and sacrifices. We desire to see it ever occupy a prominent position in the very front rank of this important reformation that God has committed to our trust. And we deem it highly important that in some way it should be under the control of our church, and have the full patronage and support of our people.

Resolved, That we deem it desirable to have a Sunday School paper, and recommend the General Conference to take action in this direction.

III.—ON CLAIMS.

Your Committee report that Sister M. J. Selby is the only claimant of this Conference, and that she needs and desires her entire allowance, which, according to the provisions of the Discipline, is \$128 00.

Whole amount received from Susquehanna Conf.....	\$52 90
Received from New York Conference.....	37 43
Total,....	\$90 33
Of this amount claimant has received,.....	\$49 98
Amount in hands of Committee,.....	40 40
Deficiency,.....	37 67

Resolved, That this Conference immediately devise some means to raise the amount deficient, and that the amount due the claimant be paid her, as soon as practicable, by some one authorized by the Conference.

Resolved, 2d. That each preacher be required to take up the Superannuated collection the coming year.

IV.—ON TEMPERANCE.

The Bible contemplates the highest well being of man. It approves of that conduct conformed to reason and good morals; it disapproves of all conduct, whether it be an excess of what in

moderation is beneficial, or the least indulgence in what injures man in his physical, mental or spiritual nature. Temperate in all things are the words of truth. The observing mind cannot but be struck with the wide-spread use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; and the feeling heart cannot but be affected by the terrible evils which naturally follow, as wide-spread as the use;—evils which interfere with citizen rights, brutalize the victim and close the gates of Heaven. Such effects appeal to the statesman, philanthropist and Christian. It seems reasonable to suppose a government responsible for the rights and safety of its subjects, and that it should, by prohibition, seek to remove the cause of such evils. To endeavor to stay this tide of ruin and death must be the duty of every lover of suffering humanity; and especially is it the appropriate work of all who profess that religion which proclaims only good will to all men. The remarkable and emphatically Christian temperance interest of the past few months excites our gratitude. The workers have practically and professedly acknowledged human insufficiency, and have turned to the Author of every good work, and by prayer have held up the hands and carried unto victory the temperance reform. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we will continue to pray.

Resolved, 2d. That while we cannot favor those societies which, while their professed object is the cause of temperance, we fear actually build up secretism, we will sustain temperance parties which do not, in principle or operation, conflict with our sense of right.

Resolved, 3d. That we condemn, as unchristian, the growing of grain for distilling purposes, and the raising of hops &c. for beer making; also the growing, selling and using of tobacco.

Resolved, 4th. That we advise our stewards to provide unfermented wine for sacramental purposes.

V.—ON EDUCATION.

It has been truthfully said, "Education is the handmaid of Religion." Error and false religions may flourish best in ignorance and superstition; but true religion always finds thorough mental culture a very valuable auxiliary. Men like Paul, Luther, Wesley, etc., with thoroughly educated heads and sanctified hearts, have, in all ages, been the pillars of the Christian Church. Hence the importance of schools where the head and heart may each receive its appropriate share of attention. If we want our children schooled in fashion and folly let us send them to popular boarding schools; but if in common sense, science and religion, let us have schools accordingly. We acknowledge with thankfulness that we already have two schools where science and religion go hand in hand; namely, Chili Seminary, at Chili, Monroe County N. Y., and Spring Arbor Seminary, at Spring Arbor, Michigan. We recommend these institutions to the patronage of all Free Methodists in preference to other schools. We also recommend the appointment of a visiting committee to Chili Seminary. Farther,

we would call your attention to the necessity of our children and youth being well instructed in the science of vocal music. We fear this department of education is sadly neglected among us. Let us give this subject the attention it demands, and, as far as possible, have our children educated to sing with the Spirit and with the understanding also.

VI.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Your Committee report that we have received \$54.19. We recommend that the money on hand be paid to the American Bible Society, so as to constitute J. B. Freeland a life member.

Resolved, That in place of the Bible collection we take a collection for Chili Seminary during the coming year.

VII.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Secretism, like the shadow of death, has spread her mantle over our beloved country, threatening our institutions, if not endangering our very existence. The parent of secretism has been truthfully alleged to be Freemasonry.

It has bedimmed the visions of the people—enslaved the intellect—muzzled the pulpit and the press—corrupted legislatures—bribed juries, and justified crime; and boasts of its wicked deeds of darkness. It is a sworn enemy of all righteousness—has substituted a false religion for the true, and worships at the shrine of idolatry. It is a priesthood of unbelievers, as it rejects the atonement—ignores the doctrine of future punishment, and dreams of heaven as a place of masonic, bacchanalian festivities. It makes the compass and the square emblems of universal moral rectitude, and receives or rejects the Bible at pleasure. It claims to be Christian, but places Mohammedanism and heathenism on the same level with Christianity, under pretense of uniting under one head the common brotherhood of man.

It embraces within its folds, on masonic principles, the libertine, the drunkard, the skeptic, the profane, the nominal Christian and even ministers of the gospel. As it embraces such a variety of faiths and characters, the lines of distinction, between virtue and vice, good and evil, and right and wrong, are defined according to the masonic standard of morality.

It is an enemy to society because it infringes on the moral, social and civil relations of life, by its limited laws of chastity, its exclusion of the better part of community; and also in the aid and comfort it pretends to extend to those who are adhering members of its own communion.

Therefore, in the full belief that God has raised us up for an especial purpose, we have arrayed ourselves against this satanic power, so ruinous to young and old, both men and women who come under its influence. We believe it to be a curse to society, a blasting mildew on the church and a combination of elements destructive to civilization and human and religious freedom.

Resolved, 1st. That we not only maintain our ground, but advance with more rigor than ever against this foe, and turn the field of conflict into one of victory, in the name of truth and humanity.

Resolved, 2d. That with a persistent and unfaltering purpose we stand by our landmarks on this subject as a Church, and as far as practicable co-operate with all earnest Christians in suppressing, and, if possible, destroying this evil.

Resolved, 3d. That as a Conference we will not vote for any man for office, for state or general government, whom we know to be an adhering member of any secret society; and we also earnestly commend the same course to the members of our church.

Resolved, 4th. That we recommend to our people "*The Christian Cynosure*," as a strong and faithful advocate of the principles of anti-secretism, which deserves our patronage; and we also express our warmest sympathy for the success of the "National Christian Association," in its noble stand for the right.

Resolved, 5th. That this Conference make provision for sending a delegate to the National Convention to be held at Pittsburg, Pa.

VIII.—ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The Committee report that the sum of \$25,10 has been contributed by the Conference.

Resolved, That the Conference request the publishing of its minutes in connection with the other Conferences, including that of the General Conference.

IX.—ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions and Missionary appropriations would report as follows: To be paid

T. Ross,...	\$10 00
L. S. King,.....	15 00
S. Perkins,.....	10 00
O. M. Owen,.....	10 00

And for next year:

T. Whiffin,.....	\$10 00
A. M. Paul,.....	10 00
J. B. Stacy,.....	10 00
E. E. Adams,.....	4 40
J. W. Sawyer,.....	50 00

Conference Roll, and Preachers' Post Office Address.

Year of admission to full connection.	Name.	Post Office.	County.	State.
1860,	A. F. Curry,	Almond,	Allegany,	New York.
1863,	J. Olney,	Bushnell's Basin,	Monroe,	" "

1862, J. B. Freeland,	Utica,	Oneida,	New York.
1865, J. B. Stacy,	Edmeston,	Otsego,	" "
" Z. Osborne,	Pittsford,	Monroe,	" "
1866, J. Odell,	West Webster,	"	" "
1867, B. Winget,	Utica,	Oneida,	" "
1868, J. W. Sawyer,			" "
1869, E. Owen,	Syracuse,	Madison,	" "
" W. Southworth,	Syracuse.	Onondaga,	" "
" T. Whiffin,	Clyde,	Wayne,	" "
" D. Dempsey,	Lansingburg,	Rensselaer,	" "
1870, G. R. Harvey,	Emporium,		Penn.
" E. P. Sellew,	Binghamton,	Broome,	New York.
" T. A. Ross,			
" C. H. Southworth,	Windsor,	Broome,	" "
1871, J. Guyon,	Oppenheim,	Fulton,	" "
1872, S. V. McVey,	Nelson,	Madison,	" "
" L. Kelly,	Cortland,	Cortland,	" "
" O. M. Owen,	Fulton,	Oswego,	" "
" A. W. Paul,	Italy,	Yates,	" "
Admitted on trial.	Names.	Post Office.	County. State.
1872, L. H. Robinson,	Pharsalia,	Chenango,	New York.
1873, S. Perkins,	Gibson,	Steuben,	" "
" C. W. Stevens,	Breakabeen,	Schoharie,	" "
" O. W. Young,	Chittenango,	Madison,	" "
" L. W. Cronk,	Frankfort,	Herkimer,	" "
" L. S. King,			
" E. E. Adams,	Bainbridge,	Chenango,	" "
1874, A. H. Knapp,	Williamsport,		Penn.
" R. M. Snyder,			
" George Stover,			
" J. D. Osmun,	Canandaigua,	Ontario,	" "

Names and Address of Local Preachers.

Name.	Post Office.	County.	State.
E. Osmun,	Ithaca,	Thompkins,	New York
Geo. Willard,	Union Hill,	Monroe,	" "
R. S. Bronson,†	Erieville,	Madison,	" "
O. B. Norton,	Morrisville,	"	" "
C. H. Austin,*	Illion,	Herkimer,	" "
D. Colgrove,†	Edmeston,	Otsego,	" "
A. L. Holliday,†	Otselic,	Chenango,	" "
S. S. Webber,	Edmeston,	Otsego,	" "
D. D. White,	Brookfield,	Madison,	" "
D. Walling,	West Davenport,	Delaware,	" "
Lewis Barrett,	Alton,	Wayne,	" "
Harvey Perkins,	"	"	" "
A. J. Cady,	Canandaigua,	Ontario,	" "
J. Brown,*	Utica,	Oneida,	" "
J. Downend,†	"	"	" "

J. Benedict,†	Plymouth,	Chenango,	New York.
Orville Frink,	North Pharsalia,	"	" "
Wm. Fisher,†	Rome,	Oneida,	" "
Geo. Milem,	Clyde,	Wayne,	" "
M. P. Smith,	Richmondville,	Schoharie	" "
Almison Smith,	Plank Road,	Onondaga,	" "
L. Woodruff,†	Windsor,	Broome,	" "
B. F. Tisdall,	Frankfort,	Herkimer,	" "
J. N. Fulford,	Fayetteville,	Onondaga,	" "
Amos Chrysler,†	Navarino,	"	" "
H. F. Hill,	Lindleytown,	Steuben,	" "
D. Dexter,	Black River,	Jefferson,	" "
J. C. Kennedy,	" "	"	" "
Charles J. Howe,†	Sherburn,	Chenango,	" "
B. F. Stoutenburg,†	Binghamton,	Broome,	" "

Those marked thus * are in Elders orders; those marked thus † are Deacons.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Genesee Conference,
HELD AT
Albion, N. Y., Sept. 17-21, 1874.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.

Secretary—W. Jackson,

Assistant—W. A. Sellow.

The Conference was called to order at 9. A. M. on Thursday the 17th, by the President, who conducted the religious exercises.

The roll of preachers was called and fifteen responded to their names, and twenty delegates presented certificates of election during the first session.

W. Jackson, having received twenty-two of the twenty-nine ballots cast, was declared elected Secretary.

W. A. Sellow was elected assistant secretary.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—A. N. Moore, W. Manning.

On Missions and Missionary Appropriations—The Stationing Committee.

On Education—G. W. Coleman, W. A. Sellow, S. K. J. Chesbro, H. A. Crouch.

On Sunday Schools—S. S. Board—G. W. Marcellus, G. W. Coleman, M. C. Burritt, C. D. Brooks, A. K. Bacon, T. Corliss, W. A. Sellew, S. K. J. Chesbro.
On Claims—Thomas Sully, G. W. Marcellus.
On Bible Cause—M. C. Burritt, D. Tefft, C. D. Brooks, A. Bull.
On Temperance—R. W. Hawkins, A. B. Mathewson, R. Worthington, J. E. Jones.
On Publications—W. H. Doyle, J. W. Reddy, Jno. Robinson, A. S. Willett.
To Collect Funds for Minutes—A. A. Burgess, S. Critchley.
To Publish the Minutes—The President and Secretaries.
On Secret Societies—A. K. Bacon, Levi Wood, Thos. Hogg, C. Sperry.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. *What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?*

PREACHERS.

B. T. Roberts,	G. W. Marcellus,	A. B. Mathewson,
J. W. Reddy,	H. Hornsby,	A. N. Moore,
E. Herrick,	W. Jackson,	C. C. Eggleston,
Asa Abell,	G. W. Coleman,	R. W. Hawkins,
L. Wood,	J. W. McAlpine,	S. K. J. Chesbro,
C. D. Brooks,	M. E. Brown,	G. H. Joslyn,
J. C. Thomas,	I. C. White,	N. H. Brown,
O. O. Bacon,	T. B. Catton,	Wm. Inglesby,
W. Manning,	M. C. Burritt,	G. R. Harvey.
G. W. Humphrey,	Jno. Robinson,	
A. W. Greene,	A. A. Burgess,	

DELEGATES.

J. E. Jones,	Thomas Hogg,	Abraham Bull,
Cyrus Sperry,	W. H. Doyle,	R. Worthington,
H. A. Crouch,	T. Corliss,	J. W. Reese,
N. A. Bennett,	Dewey Tefft,	A. S. Willett,
Jno. Sherwood,	Thomas Sully,	J. A. Higley,
Samuel Critchley,	W. A. Sellew,	A. K. Bacon,
M. N. Velzy,	Jas. A. Greene,	Stillman Hudson,
Benjamin Welch,	Elijah Metcalf,	Chester Williams,
W. M. Burney,	C. C. Brainard,	Stephen Smith.
David Hoy,	L. G. Lockwood,	

2. *Who are the Stationing Committee?*

B. T. Roberts, W. Manning, G. W. Coleman, W. Jackson, A. K. Bacon, T. Corliss, M. N. Velzy, C. D. Brooks, W. A. Sellew.

3. *What Preachers are admitted on trial?*

W. B. Pattridge, Jno. Walton, R. S. Phillips.

4. *Who remain on trial?*

W. T. Hogg, Joseph Henning, Addison H. Bennett.

5. *Who are admitted into full connection?*

N. H. Brown, Wm. Ingleby; and G. R. Harvey, by transfer.

6. *Who are the Deacons?*

G. H. Joslyn, S. K. J. Chesbro, N. H. Brown, W. Ingleby.

7. *Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?*

A. A. Burgess, A. B. Mathewson, A. N. Moore, C. C. Eggleston.

8. *Who have located this year?* None.

9. *Who are the superannuated preachers?*

E. Herrick, H. Hornsby, Asa Abell.

10. *Who have been expelled?* None.

11. *Who have withdrawn?* None.

12. *Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation?*

Their names were all called and their characters separately examined and passed.

13. *Who have died this year?* None.

14. *What is the number of Church members, &c.?*

See Table of Statistics.

15. *What amounts are necessary, &c.?*

See Reports on Claims, and Missionary Appropriations.

16. *What has been collected on the foregoing account?*

See Report on Claims.

17. *Where are the preachers stationed this year?*

See Appointments.

18. *Where and when shall our next Conference be held?*

At Allegany, Wednesday Sept. 15th, 1875.

APPOINTMENTS.

GENESEE DISTRICT.—WM. MANNING, *Chairman.*

Rochester,.....S. K. J. Chesbro.
 Parma and Chili,.....O. O. Bacon, L. Wood.
 Kendall,.....W. Manning.
 Sweden and Brockport,.....G. W. Marcellus.
 Albion and Gaines,.....A. N. Moore.
 Clarkson,.....J. W. Reddy.
 Yates and Carlton,.....A. H. Bennett.
 Mission to California,.....G. W. Humphrey.
 J. C. Thomas, to be appointed by the President.

BUFFALO DISTRICT.—G. W. COLEMAN, *Chairman.*

Buffalo,.....G. W. Coleman.
 Lockport, Pendleton and Newfane,.....N. H. Brown.
 Tonawanda, Pekin and Military Road,.....W. A. Sellew, Supply.
 Akron and Alden,.....A. B. Mathewson.

WYOMING DISTRICT.—W. JACKSON, *Chairman.*

Perry and Burk Hill,.....M. C. Burritt.
 Wales and West Falls,.....G. H. Joslyn.
 Java,.....Jno. Walton.
 Mt. Morris, Groveland and Greigsville,.....A. A. Burgess.
 LeRoy and Bethany,.....W. Jackson.
 Gainesville and Centerville,.....W. G. Oaks, Supply.
 A. H. Greene and T. B. Catton, to be appointed by Superintendent.

ALLEGANY DISTRICT.—R. W. HAWKINS, *Chairman.*

Gowanda and Collins,.....I. C. White.
 East Otto,.....M. E. Brown.
 Belmont and Scio,.....R. S. Phillips.
 Pikeville and Honeoye Creek,.....W. Ingleby.
 Rushford, Caneadea and Caseville,.....To be Supplied.
 Cadiz and Yorkshire,.....To be Supplied.
 Oil City, Franklin and Meadville,.....R. W. Hawkins, Jos. Henning.
 Dunkirk,.....C. C. Eggleston.
 Jamestown,.....W. T. Hogg.
 Leon, Ellington and Randolph,.....J. W. McAlpine.
 Chautauqua Mission,.....C. D. Brooks.
 Emporium,.....G. R. Harvey.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Conference held its session in the Free Methodist Church of Albion. Five sessions were held: viz, Thursday, 9 A. M. to 12 M.; Friday, 8½ A. M. to 12 M.; Saturday, 8½

A. M. to 12 M., and 2 to 6 P. M.; and Monday, 8 to 10 A. M.

The lay members of the Stationing Committee were elected by ballot—one from each district. Genesee District—A. K. Bacon received 25 of 30 votes cast; Buffalo District—T. Corliss received 20 of 35 votes cast; Wyoming District—M. N. Velzy received 26 of 34 votes cast; Allegany District—on the fourth ballot W. A. Sellw received 20 of 39 votes cast.

The Chairman of Allegany District being absent, on account of sickness, C. D. Brooks received 21 of 38 votes cast to serve in his stead.

The following visiting ministers were introduced to the Conference and invited to honorary seats; Rev's W. Gould and James Mathews of the New York Conference, Rev. H. Mathews of the Susquehanna Conference, Rev. L. W. Krah of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and Rev. Mr. Turner and Dr. Walsworth of the Presbyterian Church.

John Walton and R. S. Phillips, having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Genesee District, and W. B. Pattridge, by the Quarterly Conference of the Buffalo District, as suitable persons to be received into the traveling connection, were received on probation.

W. B. Pattridge and R. S. Phillips were, by vote of the Conference, required to pass examination on the preliminary course of study next year.

The Conference ordered the minutes to be published in connection with those of the other Conferences.

Joseph Henning was, by vote of the Conference, required to pass examination on the first year's course of study next year.

S. K. J. Chesbro and G. H. Joslyn asked the Conference to allow them another year to bring up the third years' course of study, which was granted.

F. J. Ewell removed, by transfer, to the New York Conference.

G. R. Harvey was received, by transfer, from the Susquehanna Conference.

The certificate of ordination to the office of Elder of Chas. E. Paschke, in the Evangelical Protestant Church, was recognized by the Conference, he having joined the Free Methodist Church.

The certificate of ordination, to the office of Deacon, of George Steele, in the F. M. Church, was by him returned to the Conference.

George W. Worthington, having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Genesée District as a suitable person to be ordained to the office of Deacon, and Nathan A. Bennett, having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Allegany District as a suitable person to be ordained to the office of Elder, were elected by the Conference to the respective offices, and were ordained on the Sabbath.

The election of delegates to the General Conference was made the special order of business on Saturday at 10 A. M.

At the appointed hour the Conference divided, the ministers voting for the ministerial delegates, and the laymen voting for the lay delegates. The following was the result of the first ballot—each ballot containing four names:—

MINISTERS—J. W. Reddy received 19 votes, Levi Wood 20, W. Manning 17, H. Hornsby 16, G. W. Coleman 12, W. Jackson 9, R. W. Hawkins 4, C. D. Brooks 3, scattering 4.

J. W. Reddy, L. Wood, W. Manning and H. Hornsby; having received a majority of the votes cast, were declared elected.

G. R. Harvey, having voted for General Conference delegates in the Susquehanna Conference, asked to be excused from voting here. He was excused and was not counted in in the basis of representation.

LAYMEN—M. N. Velzy received 20 votes, Cyrus Sperry 25, N. A. Bennett 18, C. Brainerd 17, T. Corliss 9, H. A. Crouch 9, W. A. Sellw 6, scattering 7.

C. Sperry, M. N. Velzy, N. A. Bennett and C. Brainerd, having received a majority of the votes cast, were declared elected.

C. D. Brooks and G. W. Coleman were elected ministerial reserve, and T. Corliss and D. Tefft lay reserve delegates.

It was moved and carried that in the passage of ministers characters they be requested to stay in, unless a vote is necessary to decide their relation.

The annual Sabbath School meeting was held on Saturday evening. The usual sermon was omitted. Brother Moore,

who was appointed to preach the sermon by the last Conference, was excused, and the exercises consisted in the reading of the report of the Recording Secretary of the S. S. B., and interesting ten minute speeches by a number of Sabbath School workers.

The appointment of J. C. Thomas, A. A. Greene and T. B. Catton was, by vote of the Conference, left with the Superintendent.

The proposed amendment on the General Superintendency, viz: on page 38, Chapter II, section II, article 2 of the restrictive rules, to add, immediately following the words "an itinerant ministry," "and General Superintendency," was acted on by the Conference with the following result:—

Yeas—B. T. Roberts, O. O. Bacon, W. Jackson, G. W. Coleman, J. W. McAlpine, Jno. Robinson, A. B. Mathewson, A. N. Moore, N. H. Brown, J. E. Jones, H. A. Crouch, Jno. Sherwood, Samuel Critchley, W. H. Doyle, T. Corliss, Tho's Sully, W. A. Sellew, R. Worthington, J. W. Reese, A. K. Bacon, B. Welch, W. M. Barney.—22

Nays—Levi Wood, J. W. Reddy, C. D. Brooks, W. Manning, G. W. Marcellus, H. Hornsby, M. E. Brown, I. C. White, M. C. Burritt, A. A. Burgess, S. K. J. Chesbro, G. H. Joslyn, W. Ingleby, Cyrus Sperry, N. A. Bennett, M. N. Velzy, Thomas Hogg, D. Tefft, Jas. A. Greene, A. Bull, A. S. Willett, J. A. Higley, S. Hudson, C. Williams, E. Metcalf, C. Brainerd, S. Smith, L. G. Lockwood, David Hoy.—29

NOTE—E. Herrick, A. Abell, G. W. Humphrey, A. H. Greene and T. B. Catton were absent when the above vote was taken. J. C. Thomas declined to vote. G. R. Harvey and W. R. Hawkins had voted on the question in the Susquehanna Conference.

The Conference appointed a S. S. Convention to be held at Allegany in December, 1874, and one at LeRoy about April 1st 1875.

Brother Thomas Sully was appointed a committee to audit the account between the Conference and G. W. Humphrey; but, for want of sufficient data, he was able to make only a partial report, and he was continued as committee of audit, with instructions to correspond with Bro. Humphrey and others and report through *The Free Methodist*.

Rev. B. T. Roberts and W. A. Sellew were appointed del-

legates to the National Christian Association anniversary, to be held at Pittsburg, Pa., in May or June, 1875.

The Secretary was also ordered to give credentials to any other member who might choose or be able to attend.

Religious services were held every afternoon and evening during the Conference, except Saturday afternoon.

On Sabbath the General Superintendent, B. T. Roberts, preached at 10½ A. M., G. W. Coleman at 2 P. M., and F. J. Ewell at 7 P. M.

The pulpit of the Presbyterian Church was supplied by L. Wood, on Sabbath evening, and several pulpits of adjacent churches were supplied during the day and evening by members of the Conference.

At the close of the forenoon sermon Bros. Anthony N. Moore, Asahel B. Mathewson, Charles C. Eggleston, Albert A. Burgess and Nathan A. Bennett, (a local preacher) were ordained to the office of Elders.

At the close of the afternoon service William Ingleby and Geo. W. Worthington, (a local preacher) were ordained to the office of Deacons.

The last session of the Conference was held at 8 A. M. on Monday morning. After the reading of the appointments the District Chairmen were elected. One ballot was cast for each district with the following result:

Genesee District,	W. Manning	received	27	of	43.
Buffalo	"	G. W. Coleman	"	37	" 40.
Wyoming	"	W. Jackson	"	27	" 42.
Allegany	"	R. W. Hawkins	"	27	" 48.

VOTE OF THANKS.—*Resolved*, That the members of and visitors to this Conference tender our hearty thanks to the kind friends at Albion for their generous hospitality in entertaining us.

Passed by a unanimous rising vote.

Examiners on Course of Study for Next Year.

Preliminary Course—Wm. Manning, Jno. Robinson.

First Year—M. C. Burritt, C. C. Eggleston.

Second Year—G. W. Marcellus, A. N. Moore.

Third Year—R. W. Hawkins, L. Wood.

Fourth Year—O. O. Bacon, A. A. Burgess.

S. S. Board.—Recording Secretary, S. K. J. Chesbro, G. W. Marcellus, A. B. Mathewson, A. A. Burgess, W. T. Hogg,

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	No. Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	S. Schools.	S. S. Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.	Missionary Col-lections.	Supernannated Collections.	Bible Cause Col-lections.	Preachers' Re-ceipts.	Deficiency from Claims.	Probable Value of Church Property.	Probable Value of Parsonage.							
Rochester	S. K. J. Chesbro	49	10	59	2	1	65	16	..	..	..	\$825.08	..	\$825.08	\$4,000				
Parma and Chili.....	O. O. Bacon, L. Wood.	151	28	179	4	4	227	44	\$47.03	\$27.05	..	1290.00	..	1250.00	3,500							
Kendall	W. Manning	99	15	114	1	2	130	22	36.00	24.00	..	550.00	..	4,000	700							
Sweden and Brockport	G. W. Marcellus	53	12	65	1	2	113	16	28.87	3.00	..	430.00	..	1,400	600							
Albion and Gaines	A. N. Moore	200	14	214	1	3	223	27	22.50	36.10	..	730.00	..	10,000	..							
Clarkson	J. W. Reddy	26	10	36	1	1	60	14	5.24	6.03	..	172.00	..	..	..				
Gates and Carlton	A. H. Bennett..	42	4	46	3	1	60	13	10.00	10.00	..	340.00	..	3,600	..							
Buffalo	W. Gould	62	15	77	1	1	87	14	8.10	11.19	..	855.50	..	10,000	..							
Lockport, Pendleton, etc.	G. W. Coleman	79	7	86	2	3	146	26	14.14	19.50	..	650.00	..	7,500	..							
Porter and Wilson.....	W. B. Partridge.....	59	3	62	2	3	119	20	8.15	3.02	\$1.70	575.00	..	800	1,500							
Tonawanda, etc	M. E. Brown	42	4	46	2	2	50	8	..	2.70	..	330.00	..	2,000	..							
Akron and Alden	A. B. Mathewson	76	3	79	3	2	75	21	3.10	5.15	5.90	375.00	..	2,300	..							
Perry and Burke Hill	M. C. Burritt	68	2	70	2	2	62	11	26.10	13.08	..	550.00	..	3,000	1,200							
Wales and West Falls	L. C. White	90	3	93	3	3	70	10	2.00	10.00	..	325.00	125.00	6,000	1,000							
Java and Attica	A. A. Burgess	80	14	94	3	1	25	10	3.75	3.50	1.26	424.23	25.67	2,400	..							
Mount Morris, etc.	N. H. Brown	30	3	33	2	2	47	8	4.35	2.25	..	290.53	..	4,000	..							
LeRoy and Bethany	W. Jackson	50	8	58	2	2	84	14	..	6.06	..	450.00	..	2,500	..							
Gainesville	W. G. Oakes	29	2	31	1	1	28	7	..	..	..	137.66	..	4,000	1,000				
Allegany	John Robinson	96	5	101	2	3	60	14	14.83	2.00	..	420.00	..	8,000	..							
Gowanda and Collins	J. W. McAlpine	96	24	120	1	3	114	27	10.00	3.00	..	530.00	..	3,000	..							
East Otto	C. C. Eggleston	36	11	47	2	1	38	8	..	5.00	..	379.00	..	2,000	1,000							
Beimont and Pikeville	W. Ingleby	75	12	87	1	2	131	37	..	9.00	..	384.00	..	2,000	700							
Rushford and Caseville	T. B. Catton	66	9	75	1	1	87	16	5.66	..	..	412.00	88.00	1,500	500					
Cadiz and Yorkshire	G. H. Joslyn	49	9	58	1	2	87	16	..	..	..	360.34	..	..	..				
Oil City	J. Henning	94	21	115	1	1	120	25	..	..	..	300.00	..	..	..				
Jamestown	W. T. Hogg	30	26	56	1	4	20	..	..	..	..	136.81	..	..	..				
Dunkirk and Ellington	C. D. Brooks	31	5	36	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Franklin	R. W. Hawkins	6	5	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		1864	284	2148	38	52	2261	436	239	82	193	08	17	86	12482	07	238	67	110	700	15	700

A. K. Bacon, T. Corliss, M. N. Velzy, N. A. Bennett, W. A. Sellew.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON CLAIMS.

The committee reported—Received, \$193.03. The Conference ordered the following distribution to be made:—

H. Hornsby,.....	\$25 00
Asa Abell,.....	25 00
E. Herrick,.....	143 03—\$193 03

II.—ON MISSIONS.

The committee reported—Received, \$226 82. The Conference authorized the following disbursement:—

To pay deficiency of last year, with interest,....	\$164 24
To C. D. Brooks,.....	45 00
To F. J. Ewell,.....	17 58—\$226 82

The following appropriations were made; for—

Leon, Randolph and Ellington,.....	\$100 00
Chautauqua Mission,.....	100 00
Pikeville and Honeoye Creek,.....	50 00—\$250 00

III.—ON FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

The committee reported \$27.65 received.

IV.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

The truth of God shines out through His word upon the moral darkness of the world as a powerful agency under God in saving men. Whatever agency results in scattering abroad a knowledge of divine truth, is deserving the support of every Christian. Therefore,

Resolved, That the past record of the American Bible Society is such as to inspire us with confidence in reference to its continued usefulness in supplying the destitute with the Word of God.

Our committee also recommend that the collections for the ensuing year be appropriated to supply the demands of the Sunday School work among us.

V.—ON TEMPERANCE.

The position of the church, with regard to the subject of Temperance, *must* be in its favor to be in harmony with the Word of God.

One result of salvation is to make its possessor temperate in all things; and the only unfailing remedy for intemperance, is the saving power of the Gospel. God's method of promoting temperance is by saving mens' souls. In proportion, therefore, as we

accomplish this, do we effectually promote the cause of temperance.

Other measures have been devised, and are in operation, with this specific object in view. During this year a powerful, widespread effort has been made, by what is known as the "Womens' Temperance movement." They succeeded in suppressing entirely the sale of liquor in many places, and thereby prevented its consequent evils. In localities where the work was carried forward through the devout prayers of suffering wives and mothers, it was attended with marvelous results. At present it is taking more the form of a political movement, and is looking toward legislation.

While we are already pledged to God in favor of this cause, by virtue of our relationship to the work of the gospel, we will, as far as we can conscientiously, aid any movement which may be earnestly endeavoring to promote this cause.

VI.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Your committee would report as follows:

We regard secret orders as contrary to the spirit and practice of our holy religion, and opposed to that Word which exhorts us to "renounce the hidden things of dishonesty" and "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them;" to "Walk as children of light," and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

And we believe the practice of some of them to be treason to humanity, to God and the Gospel; immoral and profane, wicked and devilish, to be renounced and denounced by all men who have regard for and love of the truth.

We believe them to be wrong in principle, in spirit and in practice: opposed to Republican institutions, subversive of our liberties, and detrimental to the spirit of Christianity in the earth, and we will, on all suitable occasions, bear faithful testimony against them.

We recommend to our people *The Christian Cynosure* and the *Methodist Free Press*.

We would also recommend this body to send one or more delegates to the *National Christian Association* anniversary, at Pittsburgh, Pa., next summer.

VII.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

A careful survey of the present condition of the world convinces us that there is a great deal to be done. The powers of darkness are to be overcome. The press is everywhere recognized as a mighty agency, either for good or evil, and, being the children of light, it is our duty to avail ourselves of this powerful weapon against the works of darkness.

We believe the *Earnest Christian* and *Free Methodist* are well adapted to this important work. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we extend to the *Earnest Christian* our

hearty support, and pray the blessing of the Lord upon it and its editor.

Resolved, 2d. That the *Free Methodist*, standing as the organ of our church, should be placed on the most substantial basis possible, and that we as a church ought to give it our earnest co-operation and support, and do all we can to give it the largest possible circulation.

VIII.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We are gratified with the increased interest taken in the Sabbath School cause throughout the bounds of our conference, and would recommend :—

1st, The holding of two Sunday School Conventions during the coming Conference year. One to be held at Allegany, about the 15th of December next ; and one to be held at LeRoy, near the 1st of April next.

2d, That the Sunday School Board be composed of one preacher from each district, and the following laymen: Tristram Corliss, A. K. Bacon, Mark N. Velzey, N. A. Bennett and W. A. Sellew. Also, a corresponding secretary, whose duties shall be the same prescribed in the report of last year.

3d, That our preachers and Sunday School Superintendent be requested to prepare, and forward promptly, whatever statistics may be called for by the Corresponding Secretary.

4th, That the Corresponding Secretary, together with the preacher in charge at Allegany and LeRoy, be a committee to prepare business for the two conventions.

MINUTES
OF THE
TENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Michigan Conference,

HELD AT
Coopersville, Mich., Sept. 23-27, 1874.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—B. R. Jones, *Assistant*—I. W. Bell.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—Chairman of Conference.
On Publications—B. R. Jones, D. W. Abrams, E. P. Hart.
On Missions—The Stationing Committee.
On Secret Societies—E. P. Hart, A. B. Spooner, S. Roberts,
A. H. Springstein.
On Temperance—J. A. Wilson, C. W. Butterfield, G. A.
Olmsted.
On Sunday Schools—C. H. Sage, W. Barrett, D. W. Abrams.
On Education—L. T. Frink, I. W. Bell, A. B. Spooner, E.
P. Hart.
On the State of the Work—Chairmen of Districts.
On Memoirs—L. T. Frink, J. Bently, R. J. Wilcox.
On Publishing Minutes—The President and Secretaries.
On Raising Funds for the same—W. H. James E. Leonard-
son.
On Examination of New Conference Record—A. D. Car-
rier, R. J. Wilcox.

On case of S. Marshall—C. S. Gitchell, J. A. Wilson, J. W. Vickery, L. T. Frink, E. P. Hart, D. W. Abrams.
On Popular Amusements—J. Ellison, E. P. Hart, DeWitt Pretty.

Conference Examining Committees for 1875.

Preliminary Course—I. W. Bell, E. Leonardson.

First Year—S. Roberts, J. A. Wilson.

Second Year—J. Ellison, L. T. Frink.

Third Year—S. C. Gitchell, E. Mathews.

Fourth Year—E. P. Hart, G. A. Olmstead.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. *What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?*

PREACHERS.

E. P. Hart,
 J. Ellison,
 C. S. Gitchell,
 J. A. Wilson,
 L. T. Frink,
 A. V. Leonardson,
 W. D. Bishop,
 H. Sawyer,
 B. R. Jones,

E. Mathews,
 W. H. James,
 W. R. Cusick,
 J. G. Witham,
 E. E. Miller,
 A. Omens,
 G. A. Olmstead,
 S. Roberts,
 C. H. Sage,

I. W. Bell,
 C. F. Irish,
 E. Leonardson,
 Wm. Mabbs,
 S. Marshall,
 S. C. Stringham,
 A. H. Springstein,
 C. W. Haynes,
 J. W. Sharpe.

DELEGATES.

John McClain,
 Wm. Pemberton,
 E. Baldwin,
 John Cronk,
 James Bently,
 John Smuck,
 C. H. Butterfield,
 Wm. Barrett,
 D. W. Abrams,
 A. B. Hall,
 S. M. Bradford,
 Joseph Bittle,

A. D. Carrier,
 P. Vincent,
 Joseph Hunsley,
 E. Palmer,
 A. B. Spooner,
 R. J. Wilcox,
 M. H. Young,
 DeWitt Pretty,
 J. Coward,
 Jno. Anderson,
 W. Evans,
 M. A. Jennings,

R. S. McClain,
 M. Brown,
 R. Anderson,
 J. W. Vickery,
 J. C. Wright,
 Gideon Durfee,
 E. C. Shipley,
 J. R. Sickles,
 A. Bradfield,
 M. E. Hart,
 H. Draper,

2. *Who are the Stationing Committee?*

B. T. Roberts, E. P. Hart, J. Ellison, L. T. Frink, S.

Roberts, A. D. Carrier, C. W. Butterfield, J. W. Vickery, A. Bradfield.

3. *What Preachers are admitted on trial?*

John P. Soule, Thomas Carveth, George Windust, Peter Zeller, Chas. D. Hoadley.

4. *Who remain on trial?*

F. C. Fisher, L. D. Russell, Josiah Cripps, George Linn, J. Leisenring, A. Bradfield, James Linn, C. H. Cusick, G. R. Tompkins, H. C. Ayres, Wm. McKay.

5. *Who are admitted into full connection?*

C. W. Haynes, J. W. Sharpe, S. C. Stringham, A. H. Springstein.

6. *Who are the Deacons?*

C. F. Irish, J. Cripps, S. Marshall, C. W. Haynes,* J. W. Sharpe.*

7. *Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?*

H. Sawyer, I. W. Bell, E. Leonardson.

8. *Who have located this year?* None.

9. *Who are the superannuated or worn out preachers?* None.

10. *Who have been expelled?* None.

11. *Who have withdrawn?* None.

12. *Are all the Preachers blameless, &c.*

Their characters were each examined and passed.

13. *Who have died this year?*

H. L. Jones.

14. *What is the number of Church members, &c.*

See Statistics.

15. *Where are the Preachers stationed this year?*

See Appointments.

16. *Where and when shall our next Conference be held?*

At Spring Arbor, Mich.; time to be appointed by the President.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rev. E. P. Hart was elected, by ballot, at the first session to preside in the absence of the General Superintendent.

*Ordained this year.

Rev. J. G. Terrill, of the Illinois Conference Free Methodist Church, and Rev. D. P. Rathbun and Rev. —. Ross, of the Wesleyan Church, were introduced and invited to honorary seats in the Conference.

Jacob Rote and S. M. Bradford were recommended as suitable persons to be employed by Chairmen of Districts.

A. H. Springstein and S. C. Stringham were received into full connection from the Detroit Conference, M. E. Church.

I. W. Bell was appointed to devote one-half of his time as agent for the Spring Arbor Seminary.

By motion Conference ordered that traveling Chairmen be appointed to Grand Rapids, Spring Arbor and Toledo Districts.

Rev. A. H. Springstein was added to the committee on Secret Societies.

The committee on "State of the Work" was excused from furnishing a report.

By motion it was ordered that those circuits that had not raised a collection to defray expences of delegates to General Conference do so at once and forward the amount to E. P. Hart, Spring Arbor, Mich.

GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES.

Ministers—E. P. Hart, J. Ellison, C. S. Gitchell, S. Roberts.

Laymen—D. W. Abrams, M. L. Hart, J. W. Vickery, A. Bradfield.

RESERVES.

Ministers—B. R. Jones, I. W. Bell. *Laymen*—Wm. Barrett, C. W. Butterfield.

The report of the committee to compare the old and new Conference records, was received, the committee discharged and B. R. Jones was made a committee to further compare the records.

ORDINATION.

C. W. Haynes and J. W. Sharpe were elected to Deacon's orders, and ordained on Sunday after the morning sermon.

Holloway Sawyer, Ira W. Bell and E. Leonardson were elected to Elder's orders and ordained by the President at the close of the Sunday afternoon sermon.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Jno. P. Soule and Thomas Carveth were received on trial, being duly recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Grand Rapids District.

By recommend from the Quarterly Conference of Indiana District, Peter Zeller was received on trial.

Geo. Windust and Chas. D. Hoadley were received on trial, by recommend from Spring Arbor District Quarterly Conference.

By motion, the preachers were requested to read their statistical reports in connection with the examination of their characters.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the minutes be published in connection with those of the other Conferences.

Resolved, That we extend to the citizens of Coopersville and vicinity, our sincere thanks for the kindness and hospitality they have shown us.

Resolved, That, in case the General Conference should decide to have more than one General Superintendent, our delegates be instructed to vote for E. P. Hart.

Resolved, That we do not, and cannot encourage or countenance a violation of the rules and order of our Church, yet, under the circumstances, we forgive Bro. Bell for having consecrated the elements of the Lord's Supper, at the request of the Chairman.

Resolved, That the Secretary keep a record of the studies in which any of the preachers are reported deficient, and that such preachers be required to pass a satisfactory examination in all the studies required by the Discipline, as a pre requisite to promotion, before they are promoted by the Conference.

APPOINTMENTS.

GRAND RAPIDS DISTRICT—E. P. HART, *Chairman*.

Coopersville and Six Corners....	A. V. Leonardson, Wm. McKay
Saranac and Orleans.....	J. G. Witham, G. Haven, supply
Montcalm.....	E. E. Miller
St. Johns and Ovid.....	C. F. Irish
Lansing, DeWitt and Grand Ledge.....	Wm. R. Cusick
North Star and Isabella.....	A. F. Godwin, supply
Clam Lake.....	L. D. Russell

STATISTICS.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers	Sunday Schools	Officers & Teachers	Sunday School Scholars.	Preachers' Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Value Church Property.
GRAND RAPIDS DIST.	J. Ellison, <i>Ch'n</i>	70	5	75	1	2	26	100	480	.....	3500
Coopersville.	A. V. Leonardson...	40	28	68	.....	.....	.....	.....	453	.....	.....
Saranac.	S. Marshall.....	54	10	64	1	3	15	50	276	.....	2000
Orleans and Long Lake	C. F. Irish.....	59	21	80	1	2	10	20	306	.....	4000
Montcalm, Enslly, etc...	E. E. Miller.....	48	15	63	.....	1	7	25	300	.....	.....
St. Johns and Ovid.....	J. G. Witham.....	64	6	70	1	2	10	38	325	.....	.....
Gr. Ledge, Lansing, etc*	W. R. Cusick.....	41	4	45	1	2	10	30	180	.....	.....
Isabella.	Wm. Mabbs.....	36	21	57	.....	1	.....	30	168	.....	500
Farrandville & Saginaw	James Linn.....	33	6	39	1	2	14	58	245	.....	500
Flint and Forest.....	Thos. Fisher.....	24	18	42	1	2	14	46	231	.....	800
Gaines.....	C. H. Sage.....	38	1	39	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	.....	.....
Clam Lake.....	G. A. Olmsted.	21	24	45	1	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....
Corunna.....	E. P. Hart, <i>Chairmn</i>	58	19	77	.....	3	16	75	460	.....	1000
SPRING ARBOR DIST	I. W. Bell.....	47	5	52	1	1	6	30	487	.....	.....
Sp. Arbor and Napoleon	W. H. James.....	45	2	47	3	2	12	40	295	.....	.....
Ransom.....	A. Omens.....	28	.....	28	.....	1	5	.....	357	.....	800
Coldwater, Quincy, etc	J. Leisenring.....	18	2	20	2	1	1	26	223	.....	.....
Sherwood and Burr Oak	S. C. Stringham, <i>sup.</i>	80	30	110	2	2	16	46	450	5.00	5000
Lawrence and Paw Paw	C. W. Haynes.....	34	4	38	.....	.....	.....	.....	247	.....	.....
Huron and Ypsilanti...	H. Sawyer.....	46	.....	46	2	.....	.....	.....	436	4.00	1200
Wayne.....	E. Leonardson.....	43	10	53	.....	1	7	30	165	.....	.....
Macomb.....	L. D. Russell.....	93	10	103	2	2	9	30	286	5.00	1200
Waverly and Gobles...	J. W. Sharp.....	14	8	22	1	1	8	25	100	.....	.....
Raisinville.....	G. Windust, <i>supply</i> .	64	20	84	3	6	44	214	360	1.05	5000
Jackson.....	J. Cripps.....	50	9	59	.....	1	8	46	20	.....	.....
Ridgeway and Blissfield	L. T. Frink, <i>Ch'n</i>	12	1	13	1	1	4	30	363	.....	4600
Fairfield and Amboy...	A. Bradfield.....	20	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	446	.....	.....
TOLEDO DISTRICT	A. Godwin, <i>supply</i> ..	72	.....	72	.....	4	.....	300	368	.....	2500
Cleveland & Brunswick	L. T. Frink.....	74	7	81	.....	.....	.....	.....	230	.....	.....
Delta, Washington, etc.	H. C. Ayers.....	25	3	28	1	1	.....	30	370	.....	.....
Petersburg.....	J. A. Wilson.....	15	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mansfield.....	S. M. Bradford, <i>sup.</i>	14	10	24	.....	1	6	56	.....	.....	800
Brush Rqn.....	Geo. Linn.....	45	.....	45	.....	.....	.....	.....	450	.....	.....
Upper Sandusky.....	S. Roberts, <i>Ch'n</i> ..	58	10	68	1	2	15	80	520	.....	4000
INDIANA DISTRICT.	G. R. Tompkins...	34	10	44	1	1	8	60	491	.....	6000
Cincinnati & Lawrence.	B. R. Jones.....	9	.....	9	.....	1	.....	.....	126	.....	200
Evansville.....	C. S. Gitchell.....	23	5	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	450	.....	500
Tippacanoe.....	Wm. McKay.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Westville.....	S. Roberts.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ft. Wayne.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		1549	324	1873	29	48	271	1485	9086	15 05	42200

Vols. in S. S. Library—St. Johns, 66; Ridgeway, 240; Cleveland. 100. Total, 406.

FLINT DISTRICT—E. P. HART, *Chairman*.

Corunna and Gaines.....	J. P. Soule and H. Sawyer
Flint and Forest.....	H. C. Ayres
Farrandville and Saginaw....	C. W. Haynes
Pontiac.....	J. Cripps

SPRING ARBOR DISTRICT—B. R. JONES, *Chairman*.

Spring Arbor.....	I. W. Bell
Jackson and Napoleon.....	J. Ellison
Ransom.....	A. Omens
Ridgeway and Blissfield.....	C. H. Hoadley
Franklin.....	George Linn
Huron.....	Jacob Leisenring
Ypsilanti and Wayne.....	A. H. Springstein
Macomb.....	C. H. Sage
W. D. Bishop, Missionary to California.	

KALAMAZOO DISTRICT—B. R. JONES, *Chairman*.

Coldwater.....	James Linn
Sherwood.....	S. Marshall
Waverly and Paw Paw.....	J. W. Sharpe
Three Rivers.....	To be supplied

TOLEDO DISTRICT—L. T. FRINK, *Chairman*.

Delta.....	J. A. Wilson
Holland and Whitehouse.....	G. A. Olmsted
Raisinville.....	H. Osmun, supply
Petersburg.....	Wm. Mabbs
Fairfield and Amboy.....	A. Bradfield

CLEVELAND DISTRICT—L. T. FRINK, *Chairman*.

Cleveland.....	S. C. Stringham
Unionville.....	To be supplied
Mansfield and Windsor.....	E. Mathews
Upper Sandusky.....	J. Banta, supply
Howard.....	T. C. Fisher

NORTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT—C. S. GITCHELL, *Chairman*.

Attica.....	C. S. Gitchell and Peter Zeller
Westville and Indian Point.....	Thomas Carveth
Columbia City.....	S. Roberts
Fort Wayne.....	To be supplied

SOUTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT—C. S. GITCHELL, *Chairman*.

Cincinnati, Lawrenceburg and Cochrane.....	W. H. Jones
Bloomfield.....	G. R. Tompkins
Evansville and Ft. Branch.....	Geo. Windust

PITTSBURG DISTRICT.

Braddock.....E. Leonardson
 Summerfield.....To be supplied

REPORTS.

I.—ON RAISING FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

Reported,.....\$18 70

II.—ON MISSIONS.

Reported, That the \$10 00 now on hand be paid to the minister appointed to Clam Lake circuit; and that an appropriation of \$100 00 be made to the Cleveland circuit, and \$40 00 to the Clam Lake circuit for the coming year.

III.—ON POPULAR AMUSEMENTS.

We believe croquet, and all popular amusements that we have any knowledge of, indulged in as a mere pas-time, are contrary to the spirit of the Gospel and the Discipline of the Free Methodist Church. They are such diversions as, we believe, cannot be taken in the name of the Lord Jesus. We believe that Christians cannot engage in them, nor suffer it to be done when in their power to prevent it, without suffering great spiritual loss. Therefore we request our ministers to discourage such sinful practices, both by precept and example.

IV.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Recognizing the mighty power of the press for good or evil, and the fact that the periodicals of a people reach the masses more universally, giving cast to morals and manufacturing public sentiment, for good or bad, more than any other human agency:—Therefore,

Resolved, That we hereby express our continued appreciation of the high spiritual character of the *EARNEST CHRISTIAN*, published by our beloved superintendent Rev. B. T. Roberts; also that we are pleased with the enlargement and other improvements of the *FREE METHODIST*. And we believe that wherever these periodicals go they effectually preach the everlasting Gospel, and purify the moral atmosphere of society. And we call upon each of our ministers to labor to put one or both of the aforesaid periodicals into every Free Methodist family, and persuade as many others to subscribe as possible.

Resolved, That we look forward to a time, not far distant, when the church shall render more efficient aid than patronage,—itself ministering to the wants of its people, instead of, as now, being ministered unto.

V.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows:

1. It is a well known fact that the manufacture, sale and use of intoxicating liquors, are working ruin and death in our midst, and that the liquor traffic is largely responsible for the pauperism and crime which are staring us in the face.

2. That this traffic has an extensive existence, and that the evils flowing from it are equally extensive, appear from the statistics published by State authorities. In 1873 the government received a direct revenue from the liquor traffic of \$52,099,371, and the same year the country was burdened with 800,000 paupers and orphans, to be supported at the public charge. It is a well established fact, that of the number of arrests for the violation of criminal laws and penal ordinances in cities where police courts are established, over 40 per cent. are chargeable to drunkenness.

3. Intemperance is not, however, confined to the use of intoxicating liquors; it is seen, also in the use of tobacco and opium, and other articles injurious to the souls and bodies of men. In 1871 the government collected taxes on 95,000,000 pounds of manufactured tobacco, and 1,300,000,000 cigars, bringing a revenue to the general government of \$31,350,707.00. The retail cost to the people of this tobacco, to be chewed and smoked, is about \$150,000,000. But many hands make light work; it is estimated that there are about 8,000,000 tobacco users in the United States.

4. The Chinese have introduced, says Dr. Edward Young, chief of the bureau of statistics, a new luxury, viz, opium prepared for smoking; the importation of which, for the year of 1871 was 315,121 pounds, valued at \$1,926,915. A careful inquiry among druggists reveals the fact that there are about 5,000 opium users in New York.

5. Much effort has been put forth, of late; to stay the tide of desolation flowing from the liquor traffic. During the past year what has been styled the Woman's Crusade, has been in the field waging war against this source of crime and suffering; and whatever may be said as to the manner in which it was conducted, it has made a profound impression upon the public mind. In Ohio it resulted in a majority of 7,268 votes against inserting a license clause in the new constitution of the State. In addition to that, thousands of saloons were closed and many souls saved from the drunkard's hell; and the public conscience has been quickened to a degree scarcely ever known before. In five different States of the Union, temperance tickets have been put in the field, and the friends of temperance are looking for a general move all along the line. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That it is the sense of this Conference that no pains should be spared to secure the suppression of intemperance. Temperance societies should be formed; our ministers should deliver sermons and lectures on the subject, and all our people should labor to secure the election of such men, to places of trust, as neither manufacture, sell nor use, as a beverage, intoxicating

liquors, and who will favor the enforcement of temperance laws.

Resolved, 2d. That we kindly, and yet firmly, enforce the rule of Discipline in respect to tobacco.

Resolved, 3d. That the general rule in respect to "softness and needless self-indulgence" should be so changed as to read, "Especially snuffing, chewing, or smoking tobacco or opium for the gratification of a depraved appetite."

VI.—ON MEMOIRS.

It becomes our painful duty to announce to the Conference the decease of our dear brother, Rev. Henry L. Jones; one of the oldest members of our body, and one of the six who composed the organization of this Conference.

Rev. Henry L. Jones departed this life April 1st, 1874, at his residence in Ida, Monroe Co., Mich., after a brief illness; aged 42 years and 5 months.

He died in the full assurance of faith, looking for a blessed immortality in the mansions the Saviour has prepared for his faithful followers. Truly a good man has fallen—another veteran of the cross has gotten the victory, laid down the armor and taken the crown.

He joined the Free Methodist Church July 24th, 1864, as a Local Elder, under the labors of Rev. E. P. Hart. He entered the traveling connection the same year. He took a superannuated relation in the church some three years ago, which relation he held at the time of his death.

As a preacher he could not be styled an eloquent speaker; but there was so much sincerity and earnestness, that he was heard with interest. He possessed an unusual degree of energy and patience in his work, joined to love for souls and faith in God, which made him a successful preacher. And,

Whereas, God has seen best to remove an endeared and honored brother, a faithful and righteous man, from the kingdom below to the kingdom above. Therefore,

Resolved, That we hereby express our bereavement at this mournful providence, and that we cherish his memory, as connected with the early history of Free Methodism in this Conference, and extend to his afflicted family our heartfelt sympathy.

VII.—ON EDUCATION.

Believing that religion and intelligence go hand in hand, and, discovering a disposition on the part of many in authority to separate them, or rather to rule religion out of the schools, we, as a people, have found it necessary to establish a school where our children can be religiously educated and trained up under the same principles as taught in our Sunday School and religious meetings. And, believing our wants are being met in the school established at Spring Arbor, it calls upon us for our hearty support. Thus far our people have stood nobly by the work; but what it is now is but a beginning of what it should be. A new

building is needed, also a library, maps, apparatus and furniture. These will cost money, and the trustees of said seminary have thought it expedient, and, at the last regular meeting, passed a resolution requesting our conference to appoint the .Rev. I. W. Bell an agent to travel and solicit funds to supply these wants. Our teachers are doing a noble work at a great sacrifice, and the little remuneration they are to receive should be promptly met. Students are coming in faster than we are able, at present, to provide for them. It demands immediate action on the part of the Conference; therefore we beg leave to submit the following resolutions to this Conference.

Resolved, 1st. That the Rev. I. W. Bell be appointed an agent to travel one half of the time during the coming year, to solicit funds for said school.

Resolved, 2d. That each circuit in this conference, make an effort to raise one hundred dollars, at least, for the support of said school, and more if they are able.

Resolved, 3d. That each minister assist the agent what they can on their respective circuits.

VIII.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

A true Sabbath School is the hope of the Church, a nursery of piety, a conservator and preserver of human rights and liberties. With human happiness and eternal interests so thoroughly involved, and commencing; as it does, with the first development of thought and impulse, pre-empting the virgin soil of the heart for the Lord, it ought to challenge the attention and enlist all of the powers of every lover of our Lord and his truth.

It is a Bible school for young and old; and should teach the Bible, not simply as a history, or code of moral laws, but as the expression of God's will to man, and his eternal truth that makes "men free indeed."

It is a Home Missionary Society, with its unpaid laborers carrying the gospel into irreligious homes, where moral and spiritual darkness hold dominion.

It is a glorious and hopeful means of salvation to the rising generations, teaching the children the natural and unavoidable corruptions of the natural heart, and pointing them to God's "remedy for sin." Therefore,

Resolved, That Sabbath School work should go hand in hand with the preaching of the gospel, and that wherever we have men and women enough to conduct one a Free Methodist Sabbath School should be organized and maintained, teaching the truth as held by us as a people.

Resolved, That the Sabbath School should be held at an hour when all the members of our church may attend, exhorting old and young to be present and take part as teachers or scholars.

Resolved, That the best methods of Bible study, recommended by experienced Sunday School laborers of the land, should be

consulted and studied by our teachers and people, and we heartily recommend the international series of Bible lessons.

Resolved, That our General Conference should appoint a committee to select and recommend a list of books that are suitable to place in our Sunday School libraries.

Resolved, That a weekly collection should be taken in the Sunday School to be applied to expenses and to enlarging the work.

Resolved, That the Superintendents of our Sunday Schools, when members of our church, should be made members of the official board, holding a similar relation to the church as the Class leader.

Resolved, That we deem it advisable to hold a Conference Sunday School Convention, at a point and time convenient for all of the members of the Conference and Church to attend, and, if necessary, the expenses of the delegates paid, in whole or part, from the Sunday School funds—as the Society may choose.

Resolved, That special religious services should be frequently conducted on every circuit by the preachers and officers of schools, especially on holiday occasions, for the promotion of spirituality among children.

IX.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

No society or organization intentionally or actually unfriendly to the rights and interests of the Christian community, has a just claim to support and existence; and no true Christian or good citizen can innocently disregard or tolerate such institutions.

Freemasonry is the parent of all the minor secret combinations, and these are conducted in the interest of the former. Masonry is anti-republican and treasonable. The government of the lodge is despotic and its authority absolute. Masonry seeks to become cosmopolitan. Its secrets are utterly worthless, and its ceremonies trifling, repulsive and blasphemous. Yet, to keep all its secrets, and conceal all its arts and so-called mysteries, its votaries are bound by horrible, extra-judicial oaths; by terrible, barbarous and fiendish death-penalties, and the influence of the most demoralizing associations.

The claims of Masonry being paramount, as often they are, a lodge-man cannot be a loyal citizen, an impartial juror or a truthful witness. While under the influence of secretism, society cannot be in a healthy condition, and the community cannot be safe. Every friend of public order and morality, every believer in the Holy Bible and every member of the church, should devote himself to energetic and unceasing hostility to secretism—one of the blackest and most threatening abominations of the age. Masonry claims to be ancient: yet, as Grand Lodge Masonry, or Speculative Masonry, it had no existence earlier than 1717. It claims to be charitable and benevolent; but it is exclusive and selfish in the extreme. It professes to be a religion, nay, *the religion*; yet it uses the Holy Bible only to deceive. It has a system of worship from which it excludes even the name of Jesus Christ. It calls

heaven a "Grand Lodge," and promises all true Masons a home therein; but, the forgiveness of sins and the atonement are not known in Masonry.

Masonry teaches that, by the use of the "common gavel," a man is fitted for a place in the "Temple not made with hands;" or, he goes to eternity "washed in his own blood." It is too late to doubt that the lodge is the very hot-bed of atheism and treason. In the light of Scripture and fact we are authorized to say that no man can, at one and the same time, be an intelligent, adhering Mason and a Christian. The teachings of Masonry are professedly moral. But no man is at liberty to conceal from others what he receives as moral teaching. Hence, if Masonry be good, all Masons should "freely give" what they have received; if it be bad, they should abandon and denounce it as an expensive, fraudulent sham. Therefore,

Resolved, That we, as ministers and members of the Free Methodist Church, will have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but will unequivocally, and in every reasonable way, reprove them.

Resolved, That we are heartily in sympathy with the workers and work of the "National Christian Association, opposed to Secret Societies."

Resolved, That we, so far as we may, will use our influence to extend the circulation of the *Christian Cynosure*, *Methodist Free Press*, and similar publications.

Resolved, That we will discountenance all secret reform movements, believing that, by popularizing secretism, they do far more harm than all the good they can possibly do.

Resolved, That, while we deprecate the blighting and withering influence on the church and nation of these abominable inventions of avaricious and godless men, we rejoice that many have, by openly renouncing and fully divulging, decided to regain their manhood and save their souls.

Resolved, That, by the help of God, we will not cease our prayerful and unqualified opposition to secret societies, till we witness their complete overthrow.

Alphabetical List of Members of Conference.

Comprising also the year of entering the traveling connexion; together with the Post Office address of each preacher for the Conference year.

When admitted to trav. connec- tion.	Name.	Post Office.	County.	State.
1864,	Bishop W. D.,	San Francisco,		California.
1870,	Bell I. W.,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
1867,	Cusick W. R.,	De Witt,	Clinton,	"
1865,	Ellison John,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	"

1865, Frink L. T.,	Delta,	Fulton,	Ohio.
1864, Gitchell C. S.,	Attica,		Indiana.
1860, Hart E. P.,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
1872, Haynes C. W.,	Clio,	Genesee,	"
1870, Irish C. F.,	St. Johns,	Clinton,	"
1868, Jones B. R.,	Jackson,	Jackson,	"
" James W. H.,	Aurora,		Indiana.
1867, Leonardson A. V.,	Coopersville,	Ottowa,	Mich.
1870, Leonardson E.,	Braddock's Field,	Alleghany,	Penn.
1868, Mathews Edw'rd,	Pontiac,	Oakland,	Mich.
1871, Mabbs Wm.,			
" Marshall S.,	Sherwood,	Branch,	"
1869, Miller E. E.,	Cedar Springs,	Kent,	"
" Omens Anson,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	"
1871, Olmsted G. A.,	Cedar Springs,	Kent,	"
1869, Roberts S.,	Fort Wayne,	Allen,	Indiana.
1874, Springstein A. H.,	Rawsonville,	Wayne,	Mich.
" Stringham S. C.,	Cleveland,	Cuyahaga,	Ohio.
1868, Sawyer H.,	Gaines,		Mich.
1870, Sage C. H.,	Richmond,	Macomb,	"
1872, Sharpe J. W.,	Paw Paw,		"
1867, Wilson J. A.,	Delta,	Fulton,	Ohio.
1870, Witham J. G.,	Greenville,	Montcalm,	Mich.
Admitted on trial.			
1872, Ayres H. C.,	Richfield Centre,	Genesee.	Mich.
1873, Bradfield A.,	Adrian,	Lenawee,	"
" Cripps J.,			
" Fisher F. C.,			
1874, Hoadley C. D.,	Ridgeway,	Lenawee,	Mich.
1873, Linn Geo.,			
" Linn James,	Coldwater,	Branch,	Mich.
" Leisenring J.,	Waltz Station,	Wayne,	"
" McKay Wm.,			
" Russell L. D.,	Wheatland,	Wexford,	Mich.
1874, Soule J. P.,	Flushing,	Genesee,	"
1872, Tompkins G. R.,	Midway,	Spencer,	Indiana.
" Windust Geo.,	Evansville,	Vanderburg,	"

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Illinois Conference,
OF THE
Free Methodist Church,
HELD AT
Marengo, Illinois, Sept. 30th to Oct. 5th, 1874.

OFFICERS.

President—Rev. B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretaries—Rev. J. G. Terrill, Rev. W. W. Kelly.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—M. L. Vorheis, O. P. Rogers.
On Missions—The Stationing Committee.
On Sunday Schools—M. L. Vorheis, J. G. Terrill, James Smith.
On Publications—Anson Steadwell, J. G. Terrill, C. E. Harrison Sr., O. P. Rogers, J. A. Shoemaker.
On Education—W. W. Kelley, S. A. Gilley, C. W. Frink, L. C. Ebey, G. W. Haight.
On Temperance—W. F. Manley, E. Z. Twing, N. E. Parks, Joseph Catterlin, A. O. Morse, J. L. Ward.
On Secret Societies—Joseph Travis, D. M. Sinclair, M. V. Clute, Edward Turner, C. M. Buttolph, John Porter.

On Claims—The Stationing Committee.

To collect Funds for Publishing the Minutes—C. E. Lum.

On Bible Cause—J. G. Terrill, S. A. Gilley, O. P. Rogers.

Tent Committee—C. E. Harroun Sr., E. A. Kimball, M. L. Vorheis.

To Publish the Minutes—The Secretaries.

To nominate Examiners in Studies for next Year—J. W. Dake, O. P. Rogers.

On Memoirs—J. G. Terrill, J. Travis, M. V. Clute, J. W. Dake.

On Examination in Disciplinary Studies.

Preliminary Course—C. W. Frink, T. B. Arnold.

First Year—W. W. Kelley, N. E. Parks.

Second Year—D. P. Baker, W. F. Manley.

Third Year—M. V. Clute, J. E. Whiting.

Fourth Year—J. G. Terrill.

DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Ministers—J. Travis, D. M. Sinclair, J. G. Terrill, D. P. Baker.

Laymen—O. P. Rogers, L. C. Ebey, C. E. Lum, J. L. Ward.

RESERVE DELEGATES.

Ministers—M. V. Clute, J. M. Y. Smith. *Laymen*—E. A. Kimball, L. L. Burdick.

SCHOOLS.

To raise Funds and to Purchase School Building at Birmingham, Iowa—D. P. Baker, J. Travis, R. S. Ellis, Joseph Graham, L. Mendenhall, B. F. Doughty.

The Committee of last year continued—J. G. Terrill, E. A. Kimball, A. W. Wheeler, T. Gilbert, M. V. Clute, T. B. Arnold.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. *What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?*

PREACHERS.

J. Travis,

J. W. Cain,

M. L. Vorheis,

C. E. Harroun, Sr.,

Peter Chalmun,

E. Z. Thwing,

J. G. Terrill,	W. F. Manley,	A. Steadwell,
J. W. Dake,	N. E. Parks,	T. B. Arnold,
J. Mead,	W. A. Nobles,	D. P. Baker,
J. Buss,	J. M. Y. Smith,	C. A. Brandt,
M. V. Clute,	G. C. Coffee,	C. E. Harroun, Jr.,
B. F. Doughty,	D. M. Sinclair,	C. P. Miller,
C. W. Frink,	L. Whitney,	Ira F. Ward.
W. W. Kelley,	S. A. Gilley,	

LAYMEN.

C. M. Buttolph,	J. L. Ward,	E. S. Cook,
O. P. Rogers,	C. E. Lum,	J. J. Schuyler,
Edward Turner,	James Smith,	S. B. Kimball,
Joseph Catterlin,	J. Porter,	L. L. Burdick,
A. O. Morse,	G. W. Haight,	J. Leibhart,
E. A. Kimball,	Levi Johnson,	O. C. Stoughton.
L. C. Ebey,	J. A. Shoemaker,	

2. *Who are the Stationing Committee?*

B. T. Roberts, J. Travis, D. M. Sinclair, M. V. Clute, O. P. Rogers, C. E. Lum, John Porter.

3. *What Preachers are admitted on trial?*

J. M. Scott, Hiram Carpenter, J. N. Bovee, Arthur Ferris, C. S. Spaulding, James Kelso, W. E. Coquillette, F. A. McDonald, C. E. Allen, A. P. Goode, W. C. Thompson.

4. *Who remain on trial?*

John Wilson, James Thaxter.

5. *Who are admitted into full connection?*

C. E. Harroun, Jr., C. P. Miller, Ira F. Ward; G. C. Coffee re-admitted.

6. *Who are the Deacons?*

M. L. Vorheis, N. E. Parks, E. Z. Thwing, J. Wilson, J. Thaxter, C. P. Miller,* C. E. Harroun, Jr.,* Jos. H. Knapp,* J. L. Ward* and R. S. Ellis,* local preachers. The ordination of Ira F. Ward as Deacon was recognized.

7. *Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?*

S. A. Gilley.

8. *Who have located this year?*

B. F. Doughty, at his own request.

9. *Who are the superannuated preachers?*

Judah Mead.

10. *Who have been expelled?* None.

*Ordained this year.

11. *Who have withdrawn?* None.

12. *Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation?*

Their names were all called and their characters passed in the usual manner. Charges were presented against B. F. Doughty. A committee was appointed and his case tried. He was found guilty of falsehood, with mitigating circumstances. The charge was confessed before the committee, and before the Conference, and his character was passed.

13. *Who have died this year?*

Lewis Bailey.

14. *What is the number of Church members, &c.?*

See Table of Statistics.

15. *Where are the preachers stationed this year?*

See Appointments.

16. *Where and when shall our next Conference be held?*

At St. Charles, Illinois, the time to be fixed by the General Superintendent.

APPOINTMENTS.

FOX RIVER DISTRICT.—J. G. TERRILL, *Chairman*.

Morgan street, Chicago,.....	D. P. Baker
Chicago Mission,.....	Henry Westerdale, supply
Wheaton,.....	Hiram Carpenter
Aurora,.....	M. V. Clute
Elgin and Clintonville,.....	N. E. Parks and E. C. Best, supply
St. Charles,.....	J. M. Scott
Lodi and Blackberry,.....	C. S. Spaulding
Crystal Lake, Woodstock and } Franklinville, }	M. L. Vorheis, one to be supplied
Marengo and Union,.....	W. E. Coquillet
Belvidere,.....	Arthur F. Ferris

GALVA DISTRICT.—J. G. TERRILL, *Chairman*.

Galva and Kenawee,.....	J. E. Whiting
Atkinson, Manlius and Sheffield,.....	C. P. Miller

WISCONSIN DISTRICT.—D. M. SINCLAIR, *Chairman*.

Whitewater,.....	E. Z. Thwing
Deanville and Pierceville,.....	L. Whitney
Beaver Dam, Aztalan and Stony Creek,.....	James Kelso
Platteville and New Diggings,.....	S. A. Gilley

Portage,.....	W. A. Nobles
Magnolia,.....	C. A. Brandt
Sharon,.....	To be Supplied

FREEPORT DISTRICT.—D. M. SINCLAIR, *Chairman*.

Freeport and Lena,.....	C. W. Frink
Winnebago,.....	James Thaxter
Ashton,.....	W. W. Kelley
Savanna,	F. A. McDonald

JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT.—W. F. MANLEY, *Chairman*.

Jacksonville,.....	W. F. Manley
Whitehall,.....	J. N. Bovee
Athens,.....	Thomas Wright, supply

SOUTHERN IOWA DISTRICT.—J. TRAVIS, *Chairman*.

Fairfield and Birmingham,.....	C. E. Allen
Salina and Mt. Zion,.....	C. E. Harroun, Sr.
Blakesburg,.....	W. C. Thompson
White Oak,.....	J. W. Cain
Bear Grove,.....	J. Buss
Keokuk Mission,.....	A. P. Goode

NORTHERN IOWA DISTRICT.

Dewitt,.....	C. E. Harroun, Jr.
Otter Creek,....	Thomas Vipond, supply
Cedar Falls and Waterloo,.....	J. W. Dake
Prairie Valley,.....	A. Steadwell
North-west Mission,.....	To be Supplied
Washington Territory Mission,.....	Ira F. Waid

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Missionary meeting was held Sabbath evening.

The hour for meeting was fixed at 8½ A. M.; and 11½ was fixed as the time of adjourning.

The time for the taking of the Missionary Collection was fixed for the *First Quarter*.

The Conference ordered that the Minutes be published with those of the other Conferences.

A unanimous rising vote of thanks were given the citizens of Marengo, for their hospitality.

The Stationing Committee were instructed to district the work for traveling chairman, as far as practicable.

Ira F. Ward, a Deacon in the Oregon Conference of the M. E. Church, was received into the Conference.

A collection was ordered to be taken at the close of the Sunday A. M. service, for the General Superintendent.

A resolution was also passed condemning the holding of meetings to nominate delegates to the General Conference.

William E. Coquillette and Joseph Travis were elected delegates to the annual convention of the National Christian Association, to meet at Pittsburg next year.

Robert S. Ellis, a local preacher, was recommended as a suitable person to labor as an Evangelist, and a certificate to that effect, over the signature of the Secretary and the seal of the Conference, was given him.

Rev. E. P. Hart of the Michigan Conference, Rev. Mr. Hinman, Illinois State Lecturer for the National Christian Association, Rev. A. Newton of the M. E. Church, and Rev. O. B. Stone of the Baptist Church, were introduced to the Conference.

Resolutions respecting an Iowa Conference, to be organized out of that portion of the Illinois Conference lying in the State of Iowa, and a Wisconsin Conference, to be organized out of that portion of the Illinois Conference lying in the State of Wisconsin; were passed.

M. V. Clute was elected to fill the vacancy in the Board of Trustees of Illinois Conference Benevolent Association, caused by the death of L. Bailey. J. G. Terrill and O. P. Rogers were elected to fill the vacancies in the same Board caused by the expiration of the term of office of C. E. Harroun and B. R. Mosher.

REPORTS.

I.—ON MEMOIRS.

Lewis Bailey was a man of unbending integrity. If he erred, it was on the side of conscience. As a Christian, he was devoted to God; life, health, family and property were fully consecrated. As a preacher, he was clear, strong and evangelical. He gave his hand to the church in the midst of storm and trial, and died at his post.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	No. Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers	S. Schools.	Officers and Teachers.	S. S. Scholars.	Money Rx-pended.	Preachers' Receipts.	Chairman's Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Supernannated Collections.	Probable Value of Church Property.
Morgan St., Chicago.	J. G. Terrill.	75	20	95	4	1	14	85	110.00	1000.00	...	21.00	18.00	1,000
Wheaton.	C. S. Spaulding.	33	1	34	1	1	10	35	9.27	144.00	30.00	10.00	10.00	...
Aurora.	J. M. Y. Smith.	47	10	57	3	1	7	83	97.67	800.00	...	20.00	...	12,000
Elgin and Clintonville.	N. E. Parks.	54	9	63	1	3	30	130	42.00	450.00	36.61	48.00	...	5,000
St. Charles.	J. M. Scott.	53	23	76	3	2	15	65	...	335.00	38.00	9.65	12.80	1,750
Lodi and Blackberry.	A. Sedwell.	49	6	55	1	2	11	45	18.00	300.00	37.28	14.00	3.00	...
Crystal Lake.	D. P. Baker.	74	14	88	2	2	12	70	15.00	500.00	55.90	13.35	...	3,800
Marengo.	M. L. Vorheis.	76	34	110	1	2	12	80	43.00	450.00	42.93	25.40	...	3,500
Belvidere and Bonus.	C. W. Frink.	33	33	66	1	2	8	35	20.00	400.00	24.64	5.30	7.26	2,600
Whitewater.	D. M. Sinclair.	45	4	49	1	1	8	35	...	400.00	56.86	20.67	27.30	3,500
Deanville and Pierceville.	E. Z. Twigg.	38	3	41	2	...	...	...	...	316.29	54.53	25.00	11.93	...
Beaver Dam.	J. Livingston.	14	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	180.00	12.18	...	...	800
Platteville, New Diggings, etc.	S. A. Gilley.	65	2	67	1	4	24	135	21.00	400.00	40.30	15.00	5.25	1,800
Portage City.	W. A. Nobles.	17	11	28	1	...	8	20	12.00	302.24	46.66	...	...	1,000
Magnolia.	J. W. Cain.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Astoria.	J. Thaxter.	42	...	42	...	1	...	...	...	500.00	38.00	...	...	2,500
Galva and Kewanee.	W. W. Kelley.	48	5	53	1	4	39	7.21	269.60	21.50	22.00	...	...	3,000
Atkinson and Manlius.	C. E. Harroun, Jr.	44	...	44	1	...	...	...	...	266.52	33.87	...	...	500
Freeport and Lena.	L. Whitney.	31	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	79.36	28.00	...	...	...
Savannah.	Thomas Vipond.	29	...	29	1	2	8	75	7.00	128.47	12.35	...	...	3,500
Winnebago.	L. Whitney.	52	2	54	1	11	75	25.60	200.00	66.10	23.30	...	...	3,100
Jacksonville and Whitehall.	W. F. Manley.	35	8	43	5	2	3	65	14.88	477.24	23.00	10.80	...	2,500
Dewitt.	C. P. Miller.	29	4	33	2	10	35	...	...	466.71	40.50	...	...	...
Waterloo Mission.	J. W. Dake.	41	20	61	1	1	8	50	12.00	354.23	35.50	5.50	...	...
Fairfield and Birmingham.	A. Greene.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blakesburg.	W. C. Thompson.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Salina and Mt. Zion.	J. Buss.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Otter Creek.	T. B. Arnold.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Beer Grove.	W. Stanard.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1025	176	1201	25	31	203	1178	894.58	8714.59	744.96	281.97	95.54	54,850

II.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Whereas, We are satisfied with the general management of the American Bible Society ; and

Whereas, There are at present so many demands upon us for financial aid : growing out of our peculiar mission as a Church ; therefore,

Resolved, That we exhort our people to continue their co-operation with the above named Society, through its local organizations ; and, believing this to be the best service we can render, we further

Resolve, To drop the American Bible Society from our list of contributions, and this Report shall be our apology and explanation for so doing.

III.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Believing that Intemperance is the most prolific source of poverty and crime, and the greatest scourge of our land, ruining tens of thousands every year, and sending them to a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's hell ; and that, notwithstanding restrictive laws have been enacted in many States, this awful curse is alarmingly on the increase. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That, in addition to our labors to bring men to a Christ who saves from all intemperance, and makes every whit whole ; we, as Christians, will unite our influence to its onward progress.

1st. By holding public Temperance meetings on every circuit in this Conference, for the purpose of enlightening the people with regard to the extent of this great evil, and arousing a popular sentiment against it.

2d. By giving our influence and votes in electing to civil office those whom we believe are strictly Temperance men.

3d. By not patronizing, to any extent, any person who sells spirituous or intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

Resolved, 2d. That we utterly discountenance the raising and selling of barley and hops, or any fruit, plant, or grain that receives its market value from the liquor traffic.

Resolved, 3d. That we will also, as far as practicable, co-operate with any and every reformatory temperance movement that is not secret, but will unveil its face and openly and frankly seek the good of the people at large.

Resolved, 4th. That we thank God for inspiring the "Prayer Crusade" of the past winter, for the courage and persistence with which women took hold of the work, and for the result of their labors.

IV.—ON EDUCATION.

True education implies, not so much the communication of knowledge, as the discipline of the mind, the establishment of right principles, and the regulation of the heart. A Christian ed

ucation should have for its ultimate end the fitting of the student to fulfil the designs of his Creator.

In view of the fact that education begins at home, parents should pay strict regard to the example set before their children, and the associations thrown around them. Care should also be taken to the character of the reading matter provided for them. All books and papers of a pernicious or doubtful tendency should be banished forever.

When the child leaves the home circle, care should be taken in the selection of schools. "Bury your children rather than to send them to a school that is essentially defective in its religious teaching." As in the family so in the school, much depends upon example and association. Children learn more from persons than from books. However correct the teaching, its influence for good depends largely upon a corresponding example. Again, the attention paid to intellectual development should not detract from the higher interests of the Spiritual nature.

While there are free institutions of learning conducted in accordance with our views as a Church, we heartily commend the schools established at Spring Arbor, Mich., and at North Chili, N. Y., and would urge our people to support them liberally.

We think it important that a similar school be started within the bounds of our Conference. We call attention to the following facts: There is at Birmingham, Iowa, a building, erected nine years ago, for school purposes, which may be bought at very reasonable rates. It is brick, three stories high, with brick partitions, and stone foundations; having a frontage of 63 feet 6 inches, and a depth of 42 feet 6 inches: and, connected with it, five acres of land. The whole may be bought for \$7,000; \$1,000 of which will be donated by the present owner, and we think another \$1,000 can be raised in the community.

We recommend the appointment of a committee to solicit subscriptions, and to secure the property when two-thirds of the amount is secured by reliable subscriptions.

V.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

We live in an age of inquiry. The minds of men are stimulated to a degree beyond any former period. The investigations of science, the facilities of gathering information, and the thirst for knowledge, give promise of a degree of intelligence the world has never known. The interests of society and the eternal welfare of the soul demand that all these shall be sanctified by the power of Christianity. The limitations of the capabilities of the human mind, and the influences of sin upon human thought, make it essential that those who preside over the lines of intelligence, should be sanctified by the same power. As a Church it is our duty carefully to scan the character of the publications that circulate among our people. As parents, it is our duty to see that the right class of reading is in the hands of our children. The reading of youth, to a large degree, forms the character, of man-

hood. If we do not furnish our children with their reading, they will furnish themselves. A hungry child would be safer among the poisons of chemistry, than our children are, without experience, amid the floods of modern thought. Hungry they are, and cry for bread, and they who have must give.

The *Earnest Christian* and the *Free Methodist* are endeavoring to supply this want. They have done a good work, and are doing it still. The circulation of each, within our Church, is an honor to us as a people; but wherein it can be increased it is our duty to increase it. While their character largely depends upon our character as a people, they largely mould our character in return. They often pioneer our way before us, as, under God, we endeavor to push our way out into the world. It is therefore necessary that they stand straight and clear upon the issues that we advocate as a church. This they have done in the past. That they may continue the same good work, they shall have our prayers, our means, and our contributions to their columns.

We also recommend *The Christian Cynosure*, of Chicago, and the *Methodist Free Press and Reformer* of Sycamore, Illinois, as papers meriting our hearty sympathy and cordial support.

VI.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We are pleased to report a great increase of interest in the Sunday School work among our people. The Convention held during the year, though not largely attended, was one of profit and interest. But there is a great deal to be done still. The study of the Scriptures was never more important than now. It should be the great object of the Sunday School. The Bible is the revealed will of God, and old and young should make themselves acquainted with it. As a Church we must afford them facilities to do so. This now becomes the great question.

1. We must have rooms for Bible and Infant classes. Churches already built must be enlarged or remodeled, and new churches must be planned for these purposes. This is important, because Bible classes should have more uninterrupted time, and the Infant classes need a greater variety of exercises than can be given them when the entire school meets in one room.

2. Our teachers must be helped to text books. Many of these are young—most of them are poor—and but few of them have had the advantages of education and extensive reading. All of them are engaged in secular labors, and have but little time for study; and these books should be especially adapted to their wants. It will take money to do this; and this is one way in which money raised for Sunday School purposes can be laid out to advantage.

3. In connection with our District Quarterly Meetings, a half-day, on Friday for instance, can be profitably spent in discussing Sunday School questions. This would have a tendency to draw out a larger attendance on the first days of these meetings. This

is also preferable to Conference Conventions, at least while our Conference covers so large an area of country.

4. Our preachers should take a more active interest in the Sunday Schools on their respective charges : by attending the schools, aiding in the study of the Bible, and by counseling with them as to the means and measures for the prosecution of their work.

Hoping that these thoughts may meet with your hearty approval, we subscribe ourselves,
Your Committee.

VII.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

This Conference having for a term of years declared and placed its position as opposed to secret societies, and, in such action, given some of the many reasons for that opposition, your present committee would simply re-affirm our former statements, and re-assert our position.

Having, from the commencement of this movement against organized secrecy, been identified with the National Christian Association in its work, we can but rejoice in the success which, by the favor of God, has attended the operations of that body ; nor would we fail to mention the gratifying prospects for the future. Light is being disseminated, truth is being sown, and, to an encouraging extent, the harvest is being gathered.

The object of the National Christian Association is not to suppress the secret lodges in our midst by creating a mere popular enthusiasm against them, but to create such a healthy sentiment on this subject, that, under its influence, the lodge will die, and be buried beneath convictions too deep to ever admit of a resurrection.

Your committee would call attention to the obligations resting upon us of gratitude to God, that, in His providence, He has raised up a body of men, various in their religious sentiments and denominational preferences, yet one with us in this declared issue, upon which, a few years ago, we stood comparatively alone. Truly we are on the Lord's side, and we ought to be, and will be, encouraged ; still praying, "Thy kingdom come." These and other considerations lay us under obligations to continual co-operation with the National Christian Association,—among which is the fact that the anti-secrecy work has, and is, preparing the way for our peculiar work. It appears to us that this must inevitably be the case. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we elect a delegate to represent this body in the next annual convention of the National Christian Association.

Resolved, 2d. That the preachers in charge of this Conference take up a collection on their respective charges, to aid the work of the Association ; the monies thus raised to be first applied to pay the expenses of their delegate to the above-mentioned Convention, and what may be in excess thereof to be paid over to the National Association.

Resolved, 3d. That the above collection be forwarded to the delegate elect, by May 1st, 1875.

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MINNESOTA
AND
Northern Iowa Conference,
HELD AT
Plymouth, Cerro Gordo Co., Iowa, Oct., 8-11, 1874.

Rev. B. T. Roberts, General Superintendent, presided.

On the first two days the sessions were held in the stone school house, 2½ miles east from town, where the Conference was organized two years ago. The remaining sessions were held in the new Free Methodist Chapel, opposite the above school house. It is a plain, neat building, as yet unfinished within.

Conference opened with devotional exercises at 10 o'clock A. M., Thursday, Oct. 8th.

The roll was called by the Secretary of the last Conference. Four members were present. After the reception of the lay delegates present, C. M. Damon was elected Secretary.

The Conference probationers were elected honorary members.

The following Committees were appointed :

On Public Worship—C. M. Damon, B. T. Roberts.

On Sunday Schools—C. M. Damon, J. M. Cusick.

On Temperance—J. M. Cusick, S. H. Greenup, F. K. Hickok.

On Secret Societies—S. P. LaDue, C. M. Damon, Benj. Peasley.

On Publications—S. H. Greenup, Benj. Peasley, T. S. LaDue.

On Publishing the Minutes—C. M. Damon.

On Collecting Funds for the same—Marvin Hubbard.

Examining Committee for Next Year.

Preliminary Course—H. J. Vanauken, J. P. Shattuck.

First Year—J. C. Norton, C. A. Cusick.

Second Year—C. W. LaDue, G. C. Coffee.

Third Year—S. H. Greenup, C. M. Damon.

Fourth Year—S. P. LaDue, John Ball.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. *What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?*

Preachers—T. S. LaDue, C. M. Damon, S. H. Greenup, S. P. LaDue, J. P. Shattuck, Nelson Cook, J. C. Norton, C. W. LaDue, Charles A. Cusick, John Ball, E. N. Sumner, G. C. Coffee.

Delegates—F. K. Hickok, J. M. Cusick, Marvin Hubbard, Jacob Armstrong, Benjamin Peasley, Silas Smith.

2. *Who are the Stationing Committee?*

B. T. Roberts, T. S. LaDue, F. K. Hickok.

3. *What preachers are admitted on trial?*

Henry J. Vanauken.

4. *Who remain on trial?*

J. M. Cook, J. S. Bradley, A. W. Childs.

5. *Who are admitted into full connection?*

J. C. Norton, C. W. LaDue, C. A. Cusick, John Ball, E. N. Sumner.

6. *Who are the Deacons?*

J. C. Norton,* C. W. LaDue,* C. A. Cusick.

7. *Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?*

E. N. Sumner.*†

8. *Who have located this year?* None.

9. *Who are the superannuated preachers?*

Nelson Cook, without a claim.

*Ordained Deacons this year.

†Elected Elder with a view to Mission work.

10. *Who have been expelled?* None.

11. *Who have withdrawn?*

T. B. Chase.

12. *Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation? Have they, during the past year, discharged their duties to God, themselves, and one another, as required by section IX, chapter III, of the Discipline?*

The character of each was examined and passed.

13. *Who have died this year?* None.

*14. *What is the number of church members?*

Members,	202
Probationers,	70
Total,	272
No collections.	
Number of Sunday Schools,	9
" " officers and teachers,	
" " scholars,	
Amount expended,	

17. *Where are the preachers stationed this year?*

See report of Stationing Committee.

18. *Where and when shall our next Conference meet?*

The place to be determined by the Chairmen of the Districts: the time to be fixed by the General Superintendent, as near the present season of the year as may be.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In accordance with the request of the Conference, Rev G. C. Coffee was transferred from the Illinois to this Conference.

Motion prevailed that we elect two ministerial and two lay delegates to the ensuing General Conference, (the number to which we are entitled by Discipline,) by voting separately for one at a time, with the understanding that the one first chosen from each class shall attend at the expense of the Conference, if necessary, and the others at their own expense, if at all.

On the first ballot by the ministers, T. S. LaDue was unanimously elected.

*The Statistical reports were incomplete.

On the second ballot by the ministers, C. M. Damon was elected.

The lay delegates cast ballots for two delegates to the General Conference. J. M. Cusick was the first chosen, and Benjamin Peasley the second.

J. M. Cusick offered \$15 00 toward a contribution to raise the expenses of the delegates. It was voted that the remaining \$45 00 necessary for his expenses, be borrowed by the Conference, to be replaced by circuit collections after Conference.

S. P. LaDue, F. K. Hickok and John Ball were appointed a committee to take charge of the matter.

It was voted that the chairmen of the districts apportion the above amount, added to the amount necessary for Bro. Coffeè's moving expenses, among the several circuits, to be raised by collection within ninety days.

Nine o'clock and 11½ o'clock, A. M., were fixed as the hours for opening and closing the morning sessions of the Conference.

There was preaching every afternoon and evening, by the following brethren. J. M. Cusick, G. C. Coffee, twice, J. C. Norton, B. T. Roberts, three times, S. H. Greenup, T. S. LaDue.

There were some seasons of great outpouring of the Spirit. Many were forward for prayers, some of whom were saved.

Rev. E. N. Sumner, the father of Free Methodism in this Conference, was admitted into full connection by a unanimous rising vote, and, after being elected to Deacon's orders, was advanced to Elder's orders, with a view to Missionary work on the Pacific coast.

After the forenoon service Sunday, J. C. Norton, C. W. LaDue, C. A. Cusick and E. N. Sumner were ordained Deacons by the President, B. T. Roberts.

At the close of the afternoon service, E. N. Sumner was ordained Elder by the President, assisted by others.

RESTRICTIVE RULE.

On the recommendation proposed by the General Conference, to amend the 2d Restrictive Rule, section second, page 38, of our Discipline, by inserting, after the words "itinerant ministry," the words, "or General Superintendency," the

Conference voted by "yeas" and "nays" with the following result: ministers present 9, delegates 6, all voted "yea."

The following, on Boundaries, was adopted:

Resolved, That we, as a Conference, are decidedly opposed to the alteration, at present, of our present Conference boundaries; except that we would consent to having the Mississippi river, and the State line between Minnesota and Wisconsin for our eastern border.

Nelson Cook's case was referred to the chairman for examination, and report to the next annual Conference.

C. M. Damon was elected Chairman of the Minnesota District, by ballot.

S. H. Greenup was elected Chairman of the Northern Iowa District, by ballot.

The Conference was largely attended by brethren from a distance, and was harmonious, spiritual and profitable.

REPORTS.

I.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

In common with the nations of Europe and the world, our land is covered with a net-work of secret societies, prominent among which we specify the Jesuits, Ku Klux, Free Masons, Odd Fellows, Temperance orders, and Grangers. Their votaries here are said to number some two millions. The Free Masons alone number half a million.

The latter especially has laid its tenacious grasp on the throat of the nation and the Church; seeking with wily vigilance and insatiable ambition, to acquire complete dominion in the government of both.

We have a constantly deepening conviction of its inherent antagonism to Republican principles and civil freedom and justice; and of its hostility to true religion.

It obliterates the only true lines of distinction in society—character and merit—and raises a fictitious and dangerous standard. It promotes friendship with the world, and binds the conscience by horrid death penalties. In the repeated attempts to assassinate Rev. D. P. Rathbone, a respected Wesleyan minister, and anti-masonic lecturer, by brutal violence, pistol shots and poison, we have fresh demonstration of its malignity, and the binding force of Masonic oaths.

In the late riot and murderous assault upon Wm. M. Givens, another lecturer, in Illinois, and similar attempts, we see a manifestation of the spirit of intolerance that characterized the slave power in its prosperous and bloody days. The press of the coun-

try has, to a large extent, been under its control, encouraging its propagation and depredations, without possibility of protest.

Such a power, with such a spirit, must not be allowed to go unrebuked. Its existence, and its propagation, are fraught with infinite danger to every interest of freemen and Christians. It should be met face to face in a square fight, conquered and exterminated. The battle has begun. The forces of its opponents begin to be respected. The hour calls for renewed courage and vigor.

Among the various agencies in opposition to Masonry, we recognize none so efficient as our ordinary Church work, which thoroughly uproots every form of secretism, and cleanses the heart from all sin.

We gratefully recognize the efficient aid of the National Christian Association, in furnishing anti-secret literature, lectures, etc. We commend the radical, out-spoken character of the *Christian Cynosure*, and its high, Christian tone.

However, we must affectionately warn our ministry and people against that friendship of the world which they may be in danger of cultivating by fellowship and association with those party anti-masons who are not real Christians.

The Divinely-instituted moral reform agency is the pure Church of the living God, energized by the Holy Ghost.

Let us keep to our work. Nevertheless, we cordially and earnestly recommend our brethren throughout the Conference to comply with the excellent proposal of the N. C. Association, to observe Sunday, Nov. 8th. as a day of fasting and prayer for the overthrow of secretism in church and state, and that sermons be preached on that day bearing on the subject.

II.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee recommend a more faithful adherence to the important directions contained in Section XIV., of the Discipline. These, we believe, will give efficiency to our efforts, greater than an extended Report. We kindly, but earnestly, discountenance the attendance of the children of our families, upon those Sabbath Schools which employ unconverted, or formalist teachers; and which are maintained by appeals to worldly pleasure, and which, in their exercises, cultivate pride and strengthen carnality rather than secure the conversion of the children. This practice is inconsistent with our denominational principles, and highly dangerous to the interests of our families.

Our efforts for the salvation of the children should be more earnest, constant and hopeful. We are painfully impressed with the want of *thorough* instruction in Bible truth and doctrine among the children,—with the want of consecration to this work on the part of many parents. Let us amend from this hour!

We commend the *Little Crumbs*, and *Christian Pilgrim* to our Sabbath Schools, as suitable papers, until farther provision shall be made; and we respectfully submit that the General Conference

should take action to secure a suitable and efficient semi-monthly Sabbath School paper.

III.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Resolved, 1st. That we have no more right to license men to sell intoxicating liquors, than we have to license them to commit murder in any other way.

Resolved, 2d. That we hail with joy the help of woman, in driving the accursed traffic from the land.

Resolved, 3d. That our ministers be enjoined to preach at least one sermon on Temperance, at each of their respective charges, during the coming year.

IV.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Our interest in our publications, the *Earnest Christian* and *Free Methodist*, is unabated.

We reprobate and discard fictitious publications. We recommend that the *Free Methodist* be, as soon as practicable, placed under the control of the General Conference, as the official organ of the Church.

V.—ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The committee reported verbally in favor of publishing our Minutes with those of the other Conferences, and that we request the General Superintendent to publish the Minutes of the last Kansas Conference with those of the others.

VI.—ON FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

The committee reported \$10 25 raised, which was handed to the General Superintendent.

APPOINTMENTS.

MINNESOTA DISTRICT.—C. M. DAMON, *Chairman*.

Havana and Owatonna,.....	C. M. Damon
Cannon Falls and Northfield,.....	C. W. LaDue, John Newvill, supply
Pine Island,.....	J. S. Bradley
Bloomington Prairie,.....	C. A. Cusick
Minneapolis,.....	J. P. Shattuck
Pleasant Valley,.....	To be supplied

NORTHERN IOWA DISTRICT.—S. H. GREENUP, *Chairman*.

Shell Rock River and Mason City,.....	G. C. Coffee, J. C. Norton
Algona,.....	S. H. Greenup
Forest City,.....	J. Ball, H. J. Van Auken
Grant,.....	S. P. LaDue
Osage,.....	J. M. Cook
Missionary to Washington Territory,.....	E. N. Sumner
T. S. LaDue, supply, Brooklyn, N. Y.	

A SYNOPSIS
OF THE
MINUTES
OF THE
General Conference,
OF THE
Free Methodist Church.

The Fourth General Conference met at Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y., October 14th, 1874, and closed its sittings Oct. 27th.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.

Secretary—W. Gould served until the fourth sitting, when he resigned, and Rev. J. W. Reddy served in his stead.

Assistants—Rev's B. R. Jones, W. Manning, J. G. Terrill.

MEMBERS.

GENESEE CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.

L. Wood,
J. W. Reddy,
H. Hornsby,
W. Manning,

LAYMEN.

C. Brainard,
M. N. Velzy,
N. A. Bennett,
C. Sperry.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.

J. Travis,
D. M. Sinclair,
J. G. Terrill,
D. P. Baker,

LAYMEN.

O. P. Rogers,
L. C. Ebey,
C. E. Lum,
J. L. Ward.

SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.

E. Owen,
J. B. Freeland,
A. F. Curry.

LAYMEN.

A. Wise,
David Dexter,

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.

E. P. Hart,
B. R. Jones,
E. Roberts,
C. S. Gitchell,

LAYMEN.

D. W. Abrams,
J. W. Vickery,
M. L. Hart,
A. Bradfield.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.

W. Gould,
W. Jones,

LAYMEN.

J. Mackey,
W. B. Bertels.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

MINISTER.

T. S. LaDue,

LAYMAN.

J. M. Cusick.

Standing Committees were appointed, consisting of one minister and one layman from each Conference, on—

Public Worship, Revisal of Discipline, General Superintendency, Itinerancy, Publications, Education, Conference Boundaries, Reforms, Sunday Schools, Ministerial Orders, Incorporation. The name of B. T. Roberts was added to the Committees on Revisal of Discipline and Incorporation; also Committees on Order of Conference Business, To Revise the Course of Study, Missions, Woman's labor in the Church, To select and publish a list of books and papers for the use of our Sunday Schools; To publish the Minutes; To publish a new edition of Discipline.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The following Report of the Committee on Order of Business, was adopted.

1. That all resolutions and proposed amendments of Discipline, be offered in writing.

2. A majority of the members of any of the committees, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. All proposed changes of the Discipline shall be voted on to get the mind of the Conference ; and, if approved, laid over for a final vote at a future sitting.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

I.—CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES.

For report of Committee on Conference Boundaries, see new edition of Discipline, of 1874.

II.—ON THE SUPERINTENDENCY.

While we are heartily pleased with the very able and efficient manner in which our beloved Superintendent has labored among us, and presided in our Annual Conferences in the past, we think the time has come when, in the providence of God, our work demands more laborers in this capacity ; and, in view of the rapid and prospective growth of our work, we would recommend the election of two General Superintendents at this General Conference.

III.—ON EDUCATION.

We most heartily believe in a sanctified education, and have no sympathy with that false idea that "Ignorance is the mother of devotion;" but, on the other hand, we believe that a sanctified education is an element of power that the Church greatly needs at the present time.

While in the past we have seriously felt the need of some place where we could send our children without seriously endangering their religious experience, and contaminating them with the popular, evil influence of the schools of the present day, we are thankful that this want is met in the North Chili and Spring Arbor Seminaries, where a healthy, spiritual influence prevails. We believe they are doing a good work for the spiritual, as well as the intellectual, interests of the students. A goodly number of them have already been converted, and sanctified wholly, while attending these schools.

After carefully examining the financial condition of the schools, as far as we could under the circumstances, we believe the management to be both healthy and economical. Therefore,

Resolved, That we heartily recommend the above schools to the confidence, patronage and support of our people, and the public at large.

IV.—ON REVISAL OF DISCIPLINE.

The following amendment to the General Rules was passed unanimously, and ordered to be submitted to the Annual Conferences.

On page 30, insert the word "making" after the word "drunkenness." Strike out the word "spirituous," and insert the word "intoxicating."

On page 27, Art. 23, add foot note: "This article shall not deprive of membership in our Church those who have conscientious scruples against taking an oath."

For further action on the reports of the Committee on Revisal of Discipline, see new edition of Discipline of 1874.

V.—ON ITINERANCY.

The committee reported many defects in the records of the several Annual Conferences, most of which were sustained by the General Conference; and by motion, Rev. H. Hornsby was invited to write, and publish in the *Free Methodist*, an article giving advice to the Secretaries of the Annual Conferences, as to the proper mode of keeping the records.

VI.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We have considered the question of publishing a Sunday School Paper, and deem it inexpedient for the General Conference to do so, until it can be done in connection with a general publishing interest of the church.

We recommend that the Committee on Selecting a list of Books for Sunday School purposes, also publish a list of Sunday School Papers for distribution in the Sunday Schools.

VII.—ON REFORMS.

1.—*Secret Societies.* This General Conference, having referred to its Committee on Reforms the consideration of the subject of Secret Societies, we herein report: There is an alarming growth of the Secret Orders in our midst, each operating in its distinctive sphere, though they are one in *root* and *principle*, seizing the reins of government, plundering our public treasuries, acquitting the guilty criminal, disturbing the course of trade and commerce so that the natural *law* of supply and demand is made to give place to *ring-power* and Secret Society manipulation. While in the South the White Leaguers, and in the colliery regions the Molly Maguires, by intimidation and murder, over-ride law, and *defy* justice.

On the Sabbath day, in some of our cities, beneath the flaunting of their *blood-red flag*, the *emblem* of the *Commune*, men meet and talk their schemes of *Levelism* and *Infidelity*; and, notwithstanding the fact that government detectives have been employed; Congressional committees appointed; fact and data collected; still these outrages continue. For Judges and jurors, prosecuting

attorneys and witnesses, have tied their own hands, pad-locked their mouths, and stultified their consciences by affiliation with Secret Societies of apparently more harmless character. Thus, as the nature and character of the various Secret Orders amongst us, and their relations to the Church of Christ and our commonwealth, are becoming known, we are more fully than ever satisfied with the position we as a people occupy, in relation to these various orders: viz, that of *total separation* from all and every one of them, and are thankful that we were led, as we believe by the Providence and Spirit of God, in the formation of our Church and the adoption of its Discipline, to take this stand for righteousness and truth, and, although our position on this question has entailed upon us some little persecution and misrepresentation, and in some places seemed to stand in the way of many good persons joining our Societies, and has surely limited the number of our present membership; yet such is the consciousness of the rectitude of our position, in the minds of our membership, that there does not exist amongst us the faintest desire for any compromise in the matter. We know of no desire for a change in our Discipline on this subject, nor does your committee suggest any.

We are thankful that God in his good providence has raised up, and is raising up various agencies in the land to combat this *giant evil*, and we recommend to our membership that they co-operate with the National Christian Association, and all other bodies that, in a Christian manner, are endeavoring to reform society by the suppression of the Secret Orders.

VIII.—ON TEMPERANCE.

The habit of dram-drinking and the curse of intemperance are alarmingly prevalent in all the land, and are evidently on the increase, with all the resultant consequences of the free use of alcoholic drinks as a beverage: viz, the degradation of the drinking system, unfitting man for the various relations in life, rendering him dangerous to society and a curse to his family, ending in the ruin of soul and body,—the blighting of all his prospects for both worlds.

Another consequence of intemperance is *crime*. In fact intemperance is the most prolific source of crime, if not the occasion of more criminality than all other causes combined. A very large percentage of the destitution and pauperism of all Christendom, and perhaps a decided majority of it, is traceable to the same cause, *intemperance*.

The criminality and pauperism that are directly or indirectly traceable to intemperance, are loading us with disgrace.

Whereas, There is no prospect of this state of things becoming any better: but rather worse, so long as alcoholic drinks are used in any form,—in the domestic, social and public walks of life
Therefore,

Resolved, That we deem it our imperative duty, as a people, to do all that we can to close up each and every *bar*, dram-shop

and groggery within the scope of our power and influence; and that we discountenance, by precept and example, social and domestic tippling. We see no cause or necessity for any disciplinary change on this subject.

IX.—ON INCORPORATION.

"An Act to Incorporate the Free Methodist General Conference of North America, passed April 30th, 1873.

The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1st. The General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America, shall be, and s hereby declared to be a corporate and politic body, by the name and style of the "Free Methodist General Conference of North America," and by that name it shall have perpetual succession: shall be capable of suing and being sued in any court whatever: and shall have and use a common seal, which they may alter and change at pleasure.

2. It shall be lawful for the regular members of said General Conference, at its regular Constitutional meetings, to appoint such officers, and to make and ordain such by-laws and regulations in relation to the management and disposition of their real and personal estate, the duties of their officers, and the management of the corporate offices, as they shall think proper; provided they are not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States.

3. The said Corporation shall have power to hold in trust Church property, and deeds of other beneficent, educational or publishing institution; and of taking, holding and receiving any property,—real, personal or mixed,—by virtue of any devise, bequest, grant or purchase, subject to the restrictions and limitations of existing laws; provided the annual income of such property shall not exceed the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, and that the same shall be appropriated to religious, charitable, missionary or educational purposes; and to sell, deed and convey any real or personal property, when necessary to serve the purposes of the corporation.

4. The officers of said corporation shall hold over until their successors are elected and qualified, and shall exercise such powers, and do such duties as shall be authorized by the by-laws of said corporation.

5. This act shall take effect immediately."

II.—1. The following named persons shall be the trustees of the "Free Methodist General Conference of North America," as provided for in the Act of Incorporation, passed April 30th, 1873, by the Legislature of the State of New York, to wit: J. Travis, J. G. Terrill, John Ellison, J. L. Ward, O. P. Rogers, D. W. Abrams.

2. The said trustees shall have full power to take possession of and to receive and hold, subject to the order and direction of the General Conference, any property, real or personal or mixed,

which may be owned by or belong to the said General Conference, by virtue of any devise, bequest, grant, or purchase.

3. The said trustees shall be divided into two classes, as follows, to wit:

The first class shall comprise, J. Ellison, J. L. Ward, O. P. Rogers.

The second class shall comprise, J. Travis, J. G. Terrill, D. W. Abrams.

The first class elected this year shall hold their office for four years, and until others shall be appointed in their place.

The second class shall hold their office eight years, and until others shall be appointed in their place.

4. The said trustees shall elect their president, secretary and treasurer, who shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their office.

5. The said trustees shall make a full report of all their proceedings to each successive General Conference.

6. If the place of any of these trustees shall become vacant during the intervals of a General Conference, it shall be filled by the remaining trustees.

7. SEAL.—We recommend the procuring of a seal inscribed, "The Free Methodist General Conference of N. A."

8. Form of a bequest of money or other personal property:

"I give and bequeath to the Free Methodist General Conference of North America the sum of dollars, to be used, and appropriated by that body to religious, charitable, missionary or educational purposes."

Real Estate:

"I grant and devise (*full description of the land.*)"

X.—ON REVISING THE COURSE OF STUDY.

See new edition of Discipline, of 1874.

XI.—ON MISSIONS.

1. *General Missionary Board.*—The General Superintendent, or Superintendents, of the Free Methodist Church, together with the following named persons: W. Gould, E. Owen, T. S. LaDue, Joseph Mackey and E. H. Winchester, shall constitute the *Missionary Board* of the *Free Methodist Church*, of which a *Superintendent* shall be Chairman.

2. This Board shall continue in office until the next session of the General Conference, and until others shall be appointed in their place; provided, however, that if, from any cause, any member of this Board shall cease to be a member of the Free Methodist Church, his place upon this Board shall be vacant.

All vacancies upon this Board that shall occur in the interval of the General Conference, shall be filled by the remaining members of the Board.

4. It shall be the duty of this Board to take charge of all the monies raised for General Mission purposes, in the several Annu-

al Conferences, and appropriate the same to Foreign Mission purposes, or to the several Annual Conferences for Home Missions within its bounds, as, in their judgment, the cause of God can be best promoted.

5. This Board shall make a full report to each Annual Conference; and to the General Conference, at their respective sessions, of all monies received and disbursed by them, and of the results of such appropriations, as far as they can be ascertained.

XII.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

We are truly thankful to our Heavenly Father for the great good which has already been accomplished by the publication of the EARNEST CHRISTIAN and FREE METHODIST. As they have heretofore owed their continued existence, and constantly increasing circulation, to individual effort rather than organic Conference action; and as they have hitherto been of such a character as to secure the free and full endorsement of the several Annual Conferences from year to year, and as their present moral and literary status is such that we can, with a good heart and conscience, recommend them to our people and to others, and as their publishers and editors are, as we have reason to believe, ready and willing to continue their publications in the interest of a pure and undefiled religion, as believed in and taught by our Church; therefore, we, as your committee, believe that it will be the most wise, prudent and safe policy to "let well enough alone," so far as any present change of base is concerned. In our opinion what we now ought to do, and what is likely to result in the greatest good to all concerned, is, not to embarrass ourselves by some new and untried procedure, but to take hold, with heart and hand, and help our beloved brethren who are already in the field of action and of successful effort,—to stay up their hands by praying for them, and by obtaining for them subscribers; also by furnishing them with the best matter we can for publication in their columns. And, whereas the publishers of the FREE METHODIST so desire, therefore

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be, and are hereby authorized to act as an Advisory Committee in the management of the paper.

Resolved, 2d. That, in case of another transfer of the FREE METHODIST, the Executive Committee be, and are hereby authorized to negotiate for the purchase of the same, and conduct it according to their best judgment.

XIII.—ON WOMAN'S WORK IN THE CHURCH.

For Report adopted, see Discipline—Chapter on Evangelists.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The following persons were elected the Executive Committee.

	MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Genesee Conference,	J. W. Reddy,	N. A. Bennett.
Susquehanna Conference,	E. Owen,	A. Wise.
Illinois Conference,	J. G. Terrill,	O. P. Rogers.
Michigan Conference,	B. R. Jones,	D. W. Abrams.
New York Conference,	W. Jones,	W. B. Bertels.
Minnesota Conference,	J. M. Cusick.	

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS.

Rev. B. T. Roberts,

Rev. E. P. Hart.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the New York, Susquehanna and Genesee Conferences be requested to appoint, annually, committees to visit Chili Seminary, and report to their respective Conferences; and the Illinois and Michigan Conferences appoint similar committees to visit the Spring Arbor Seminary, and report to their respective Conferences.

The following resolution has the force of law.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference that the Rule of our Discipline, forbidding the wearing of gold, applies to those who wear gold wedding rings.

The place for holding our next General Conference was left with the General Superintendents and the Executive Committee.

ERRATA FOR NEW YORK CONFERENCE.**POST OFFICE ADDRESS.**

- Rev. W. Gould, Middletown, Orange County, New York.
 " W. M. Parry, Farmingdale, Long Island, New York.
 " C. H. Southworth, Windsor, Broome County, New York.
 " E. E. Adams, Unadilla, Otsego County, New York.
 " G. E. Ferrin, Liberty Falls, Sullivan County, New York.
 " T. S. LaDue, 683 Third ave., Brooklyn, New York.
 " James Mathews, 2237 Sharswood street, Philadelphia, Pa.